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# **Update on WFP's Preparedness to the Sahel Crisis 2012**

*Presentation to the*

## **WFP Executive Board**

**2012 First Quarter Operational  
Briefing**



**Thomas Yanga**

Regional Director, West Africa Regional Bureau

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# Sahel: Food and nutrition crisis (as of 1 Mar 2012)



A serious food and nutrition crisis is threatening the Sahel region, with over 10 million people already facing food insecurity and over 1 million children at risk of severe acute malnutrition.<sup>1</sup> Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger have declared a crisis and called for international assistance.<sup>2</sup>

**13.4 million** people are vulnerable of whom over **10 million** are food insecure<sup>1</sup>

Vulnerable people <sup>1</sup>	Niger <sup>1</sup>	Mali <sup>3</sup>	Burkina Faso <sup>1</sup>	Chad <sup>1</sup>	Mauritania <sup>1</sup>
5.5 million	3.5 million	1.7m	1.6m	0.7	0.7

Senegal<sup>3</sup>

### Major causes of chronic food insecurity and malnutrition<sup>1</sup>



### 2011-2012 additional stress<sup>1</sup>



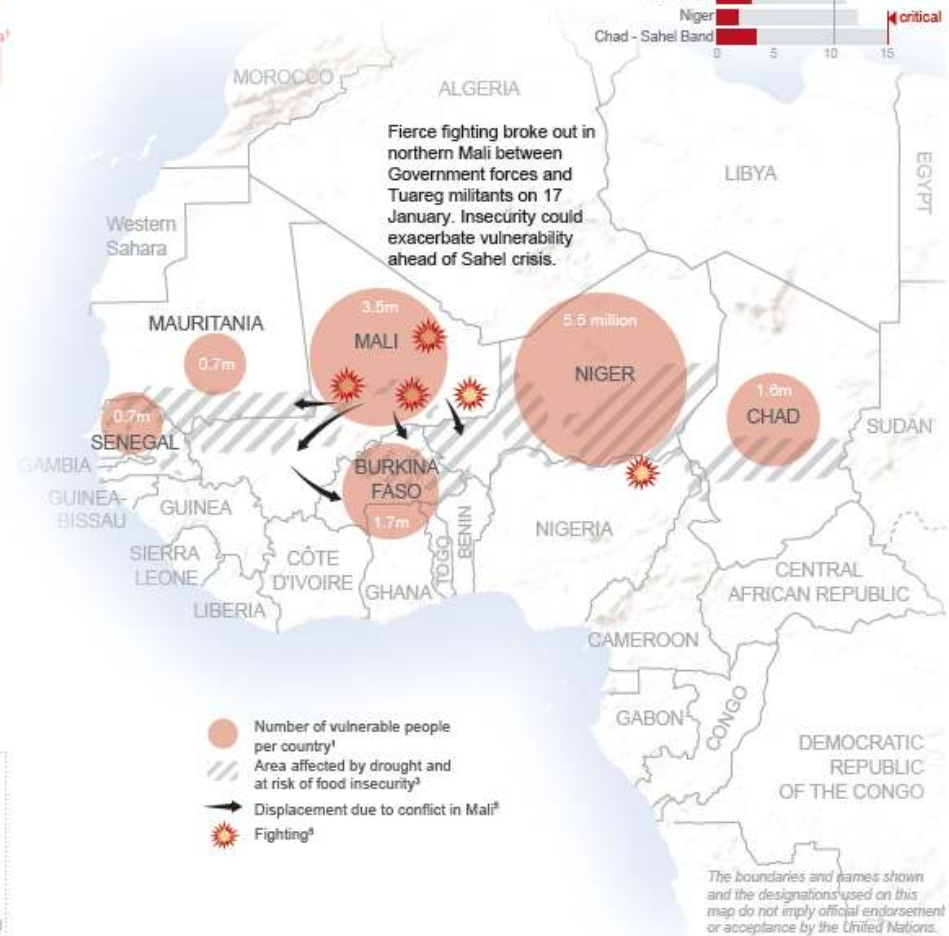
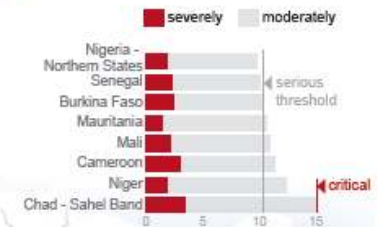
Number of affected people by drought in Western Africa (1965-2011)<sup>4</sup>



The increase in the frequency and severity of food and nutrition crises over the past few years has eroded people's resilience.<sup>1</sup>

**>1 million** children at risk of severe malnutrition<sup>1</sup>  
**645,000** children die in the Sahel every year<sup>1</sup>  
**35%** of these deaths are linked to malnutrition<sup>1</sup>

% of malnourished children between 6 and 59 months (Sep 2011)<sup>5</sup>



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# **The 2012 Sahel Food and Nutrition Crisis**

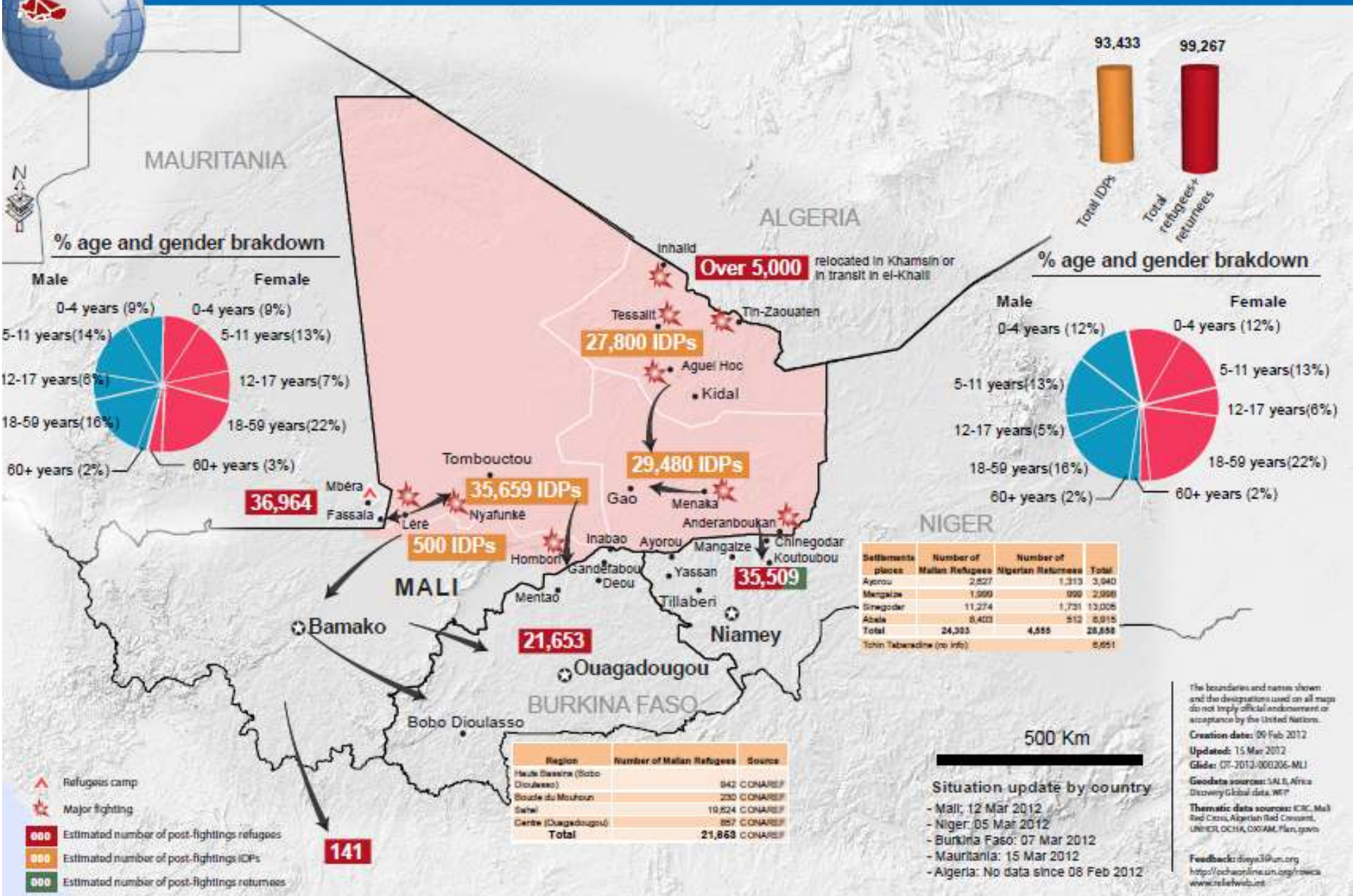
**The 2012 Sahel food and malnutrition crisis is primarily a food access crisis, compounded by other factors**

The crisis is characterized by:

1. The 2011 agro-pastoral production deficit
  2. High levels of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM)
  3. Regional instability (Mali, Nigeria, Libya)
  4. High food prices
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# Mali: Armed conflict and populations movement (updated at 15 Mar 2012)



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# Sahel food and nutrition crisis

## WFP response to the Mali crisis

- Approximately 94,000 people are currently displaced within Mali. WFP is assessing the needs of the IDPs together with UNHCR, IOM and the government.
    - 4,680 IDPs to be assisted by WFP through ACF for a month.
  - More than 100,000 people are estimated to have fled Mali to Niger, Mauritania and Burkina Faso;
  - WFP is supporting these populations in line with its drought response as far as the security situation allows;
  - WFP is covering the food needs of Mali refugees/returnees:
    - 28,500 in Tillaberi region, Niger
    - 22,000 in Mauritania
    - 25,000 in Burkina Faso
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# Coarse Grain Markets in the Sahel

*Implications for the response to the 2012 food crisis*

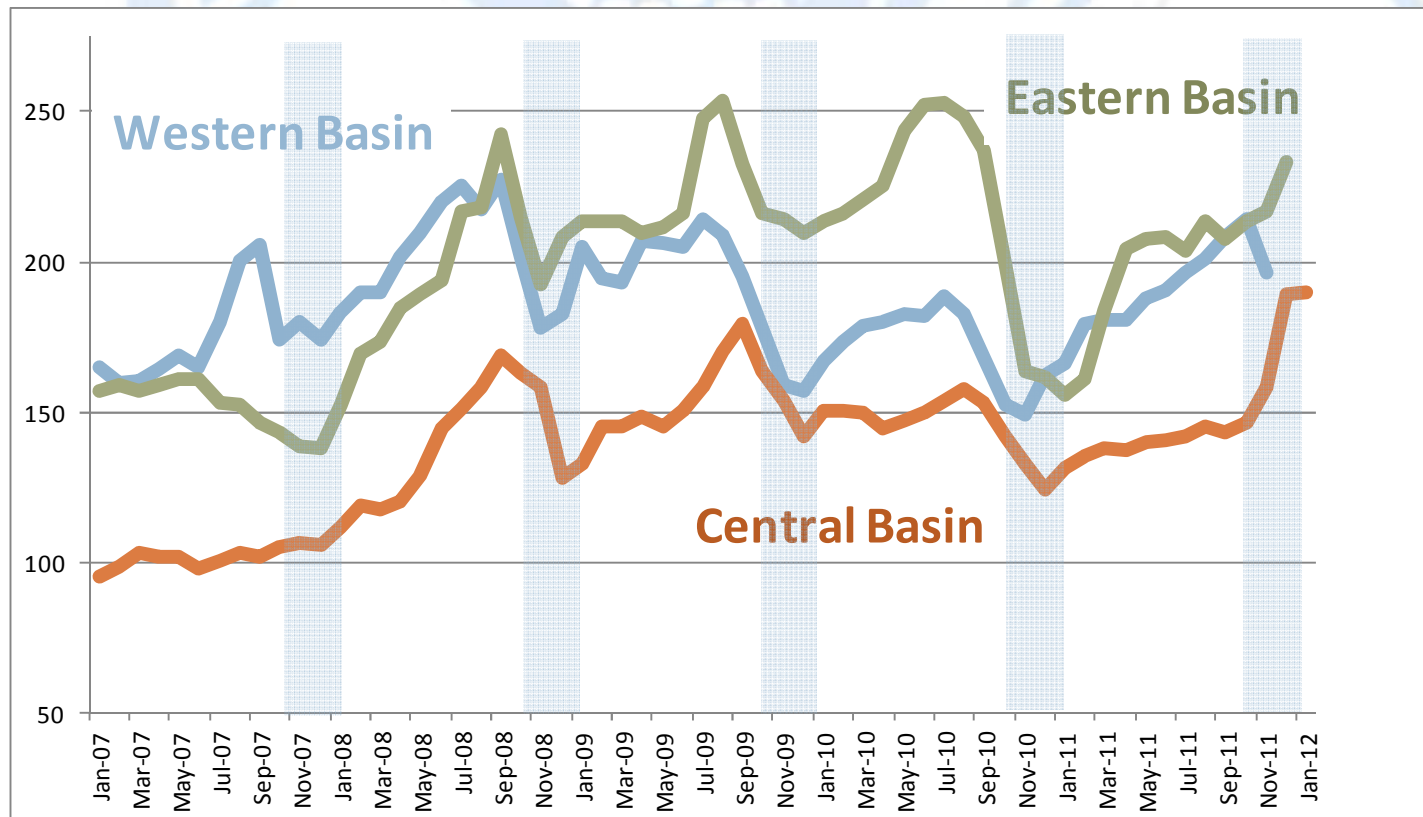
February 2012 Update

**vam**  
food security analysis

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# Prices are trending up

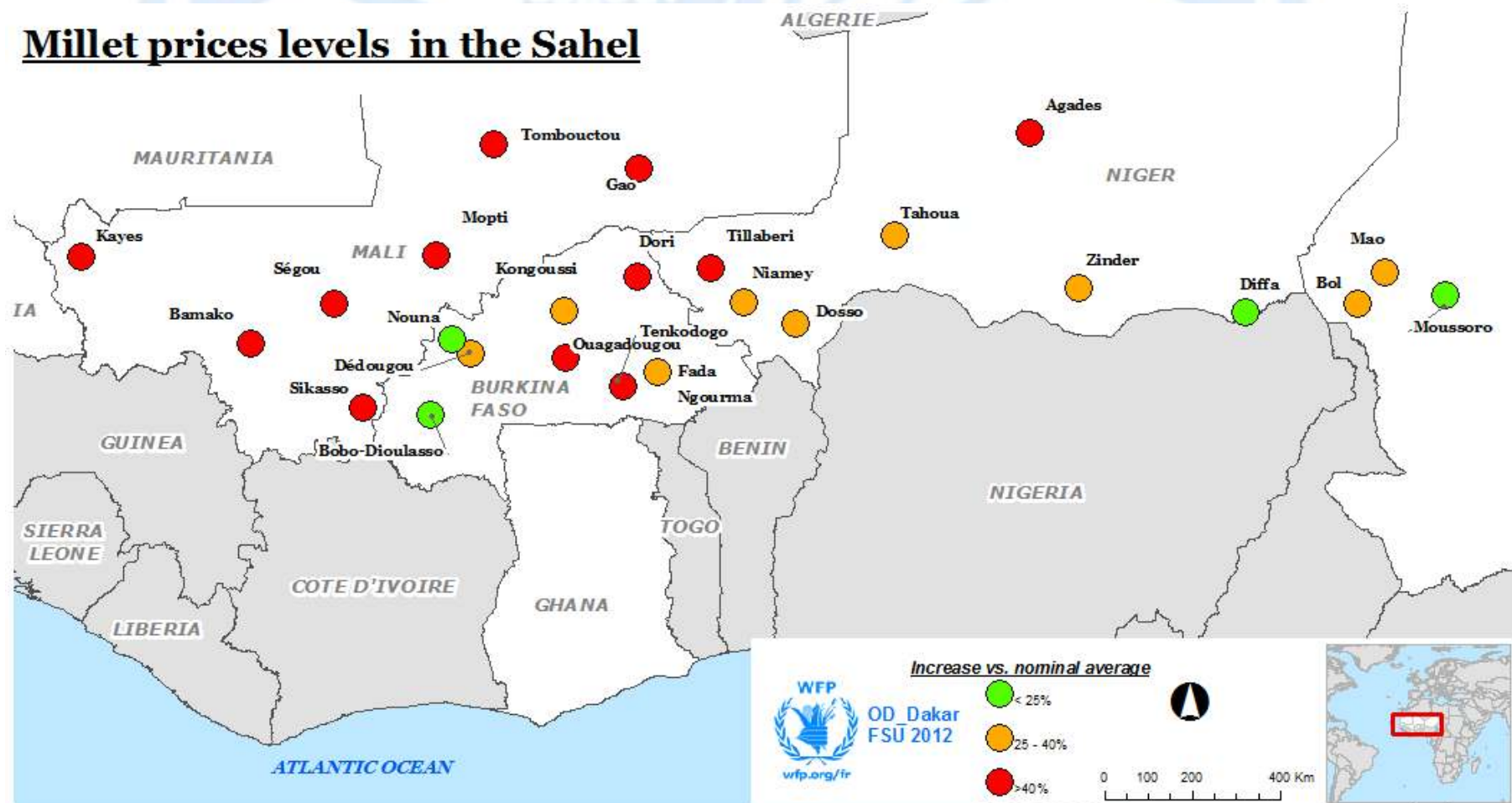
Figure 1: nominal millet price in the three major West African trading systems (fcfa/kg).



Source: WFP, data from national market information systems<sup>1</sup>

# Leading to abnormally high price levels

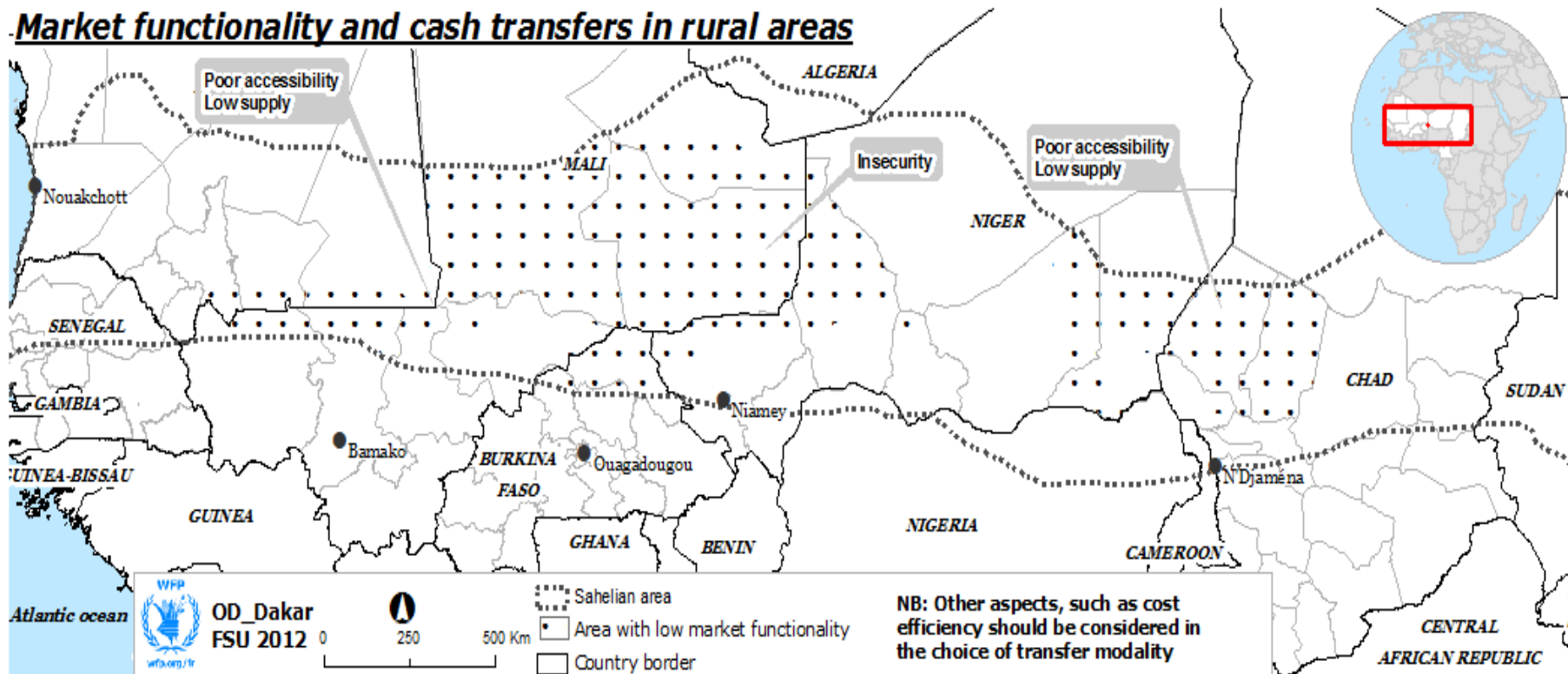
## Millet prices levels in the Sahel





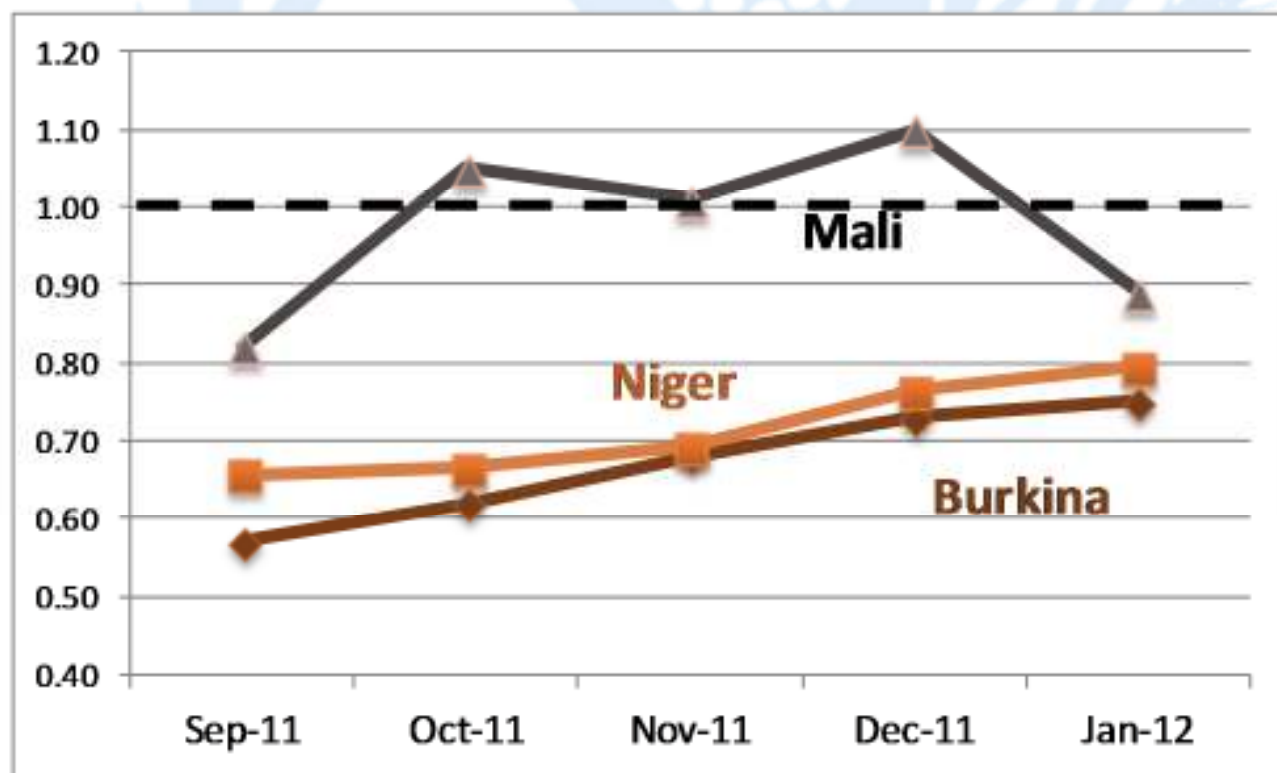
# Markets will not support cash transfers throughout the Sahel ...

## Market functionality and cash transfers in rural areas



## Price increases have made cash and voucher interventions less cost efficient

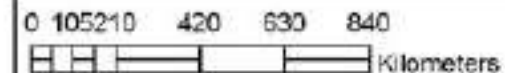
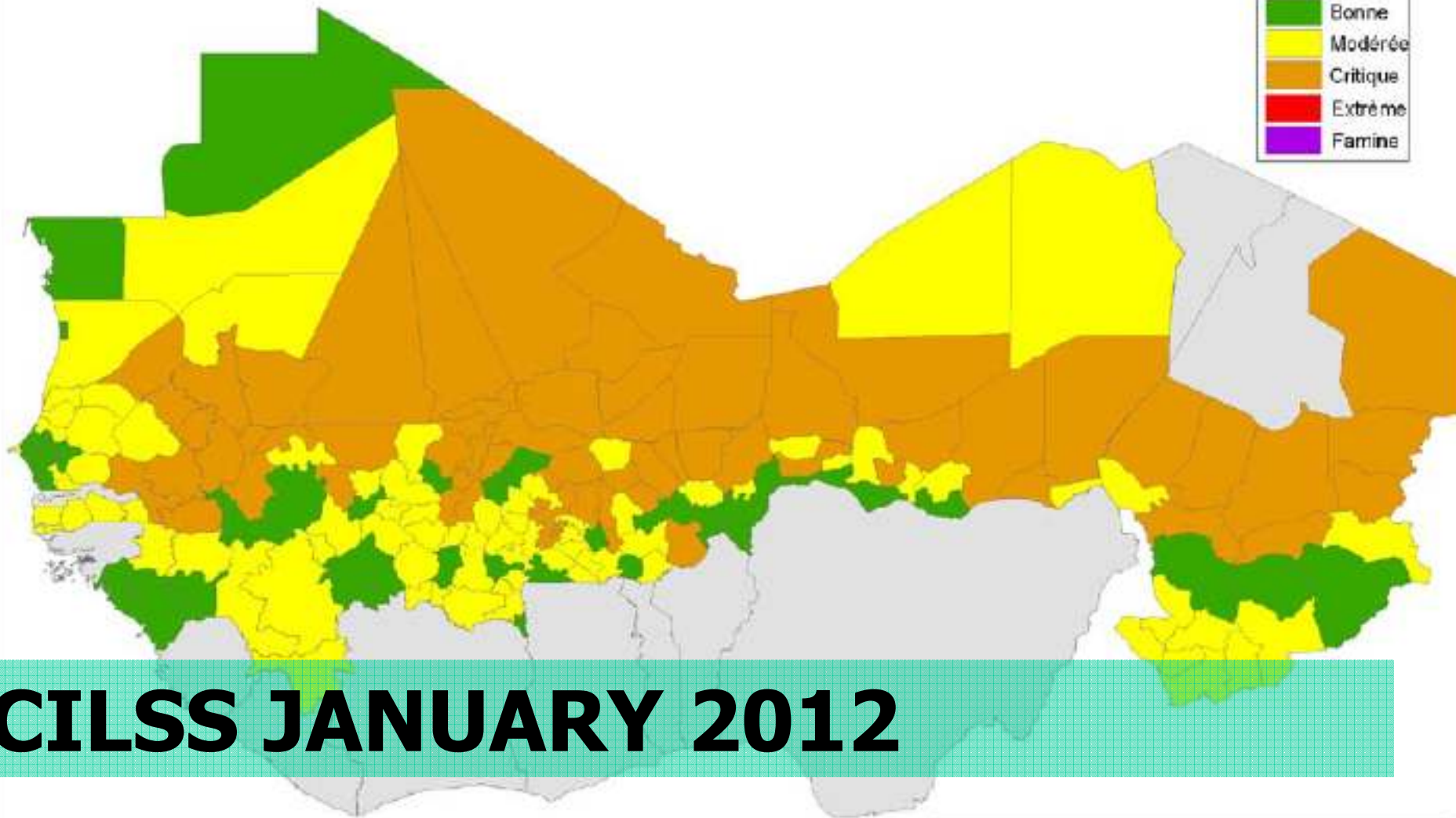
Figure 2: millet alpha value for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger (ratio of market price to delivery cost of food aid).



Source: market information system data, WFP operational cost data



## AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST: Insécurité Alimentaire Janvier 2012



# Building resilience in the Sahel: Moving from Crisis to Solutions



World Food Programme

## **Building resilience in the Sahel: call for action in Niger**

### **WFP and GoN-CCA organized a National Consultation**

**on:** «The use of food and/or cash transfers for productive livelihood assets creation to build the resilience of food insecure and vulnerable populations: lessons learned, challenges and opportunities for partnerships »

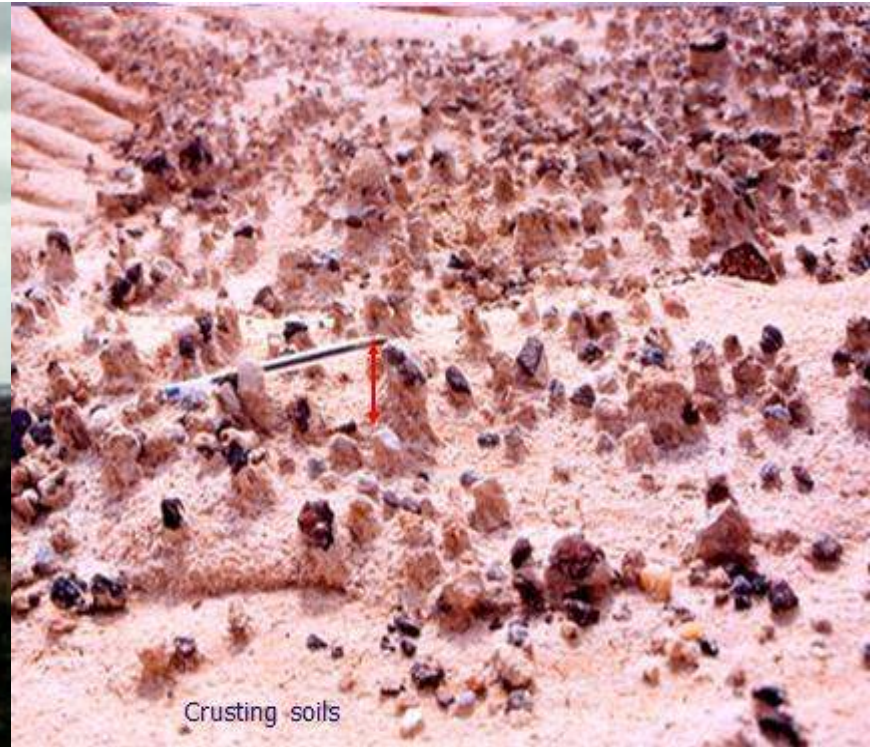
### **Objectives:**

- . Share lessons learned from 20 years of various efforts/partners
- . Identify range of interventions based on typology of shocks, livelihoods and geographical contexts
- . Identify strategic and operational partnerships for greater results and sustainability

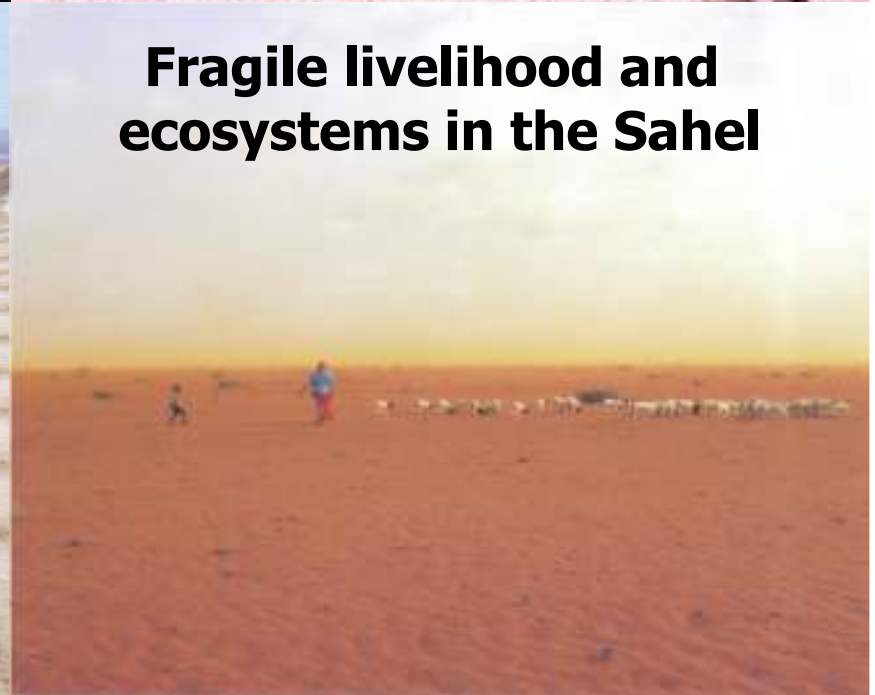


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# THE CONTEXT



## Fragile livelihood and ecosystems in the Sahel



## Main observations (Niger)

- Trend of shocks: on the increase (> droughts, > prices)
- Strong institutional desire to shift towards resilience building efforts (e.g. aligned to the 'Initiative 3N' and DNP-GCA frameworks in Niger)
- Valid experience in resilience bld exist to build upon
- Appreciation for increased capacities for Cash-for-Work/UCT (& maintaining food prep/resp. capacities)



## **What emerges for resilience building overall is the need for:**

- Effective engagement/participation of communities
- Greater flexibility (cash, food/cash, etc)
- Interventions placed within a progressive and protracted set of investments (short term, transitional, etc)
- Greater integration of interventions and complementary partnerships for concerted efforts
- Support to institutional capacity development



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## Recommendations & next steps (Niger and beyond...)

- Need to support/intervene within the national frameworks (e.g. I3N) and decentralization processes
- Id. of priority areas for concerted efforts + concretize partnerships (Gvt, UN, NGOs, etc)
- Focus on robust landscape-livelihood planning, institutional strengthening, and handover
- Advocacy and scaling up



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01/18/2012



Bridging food gaps



Access to markets

2012/02/23 02:08 PM



CFW payments



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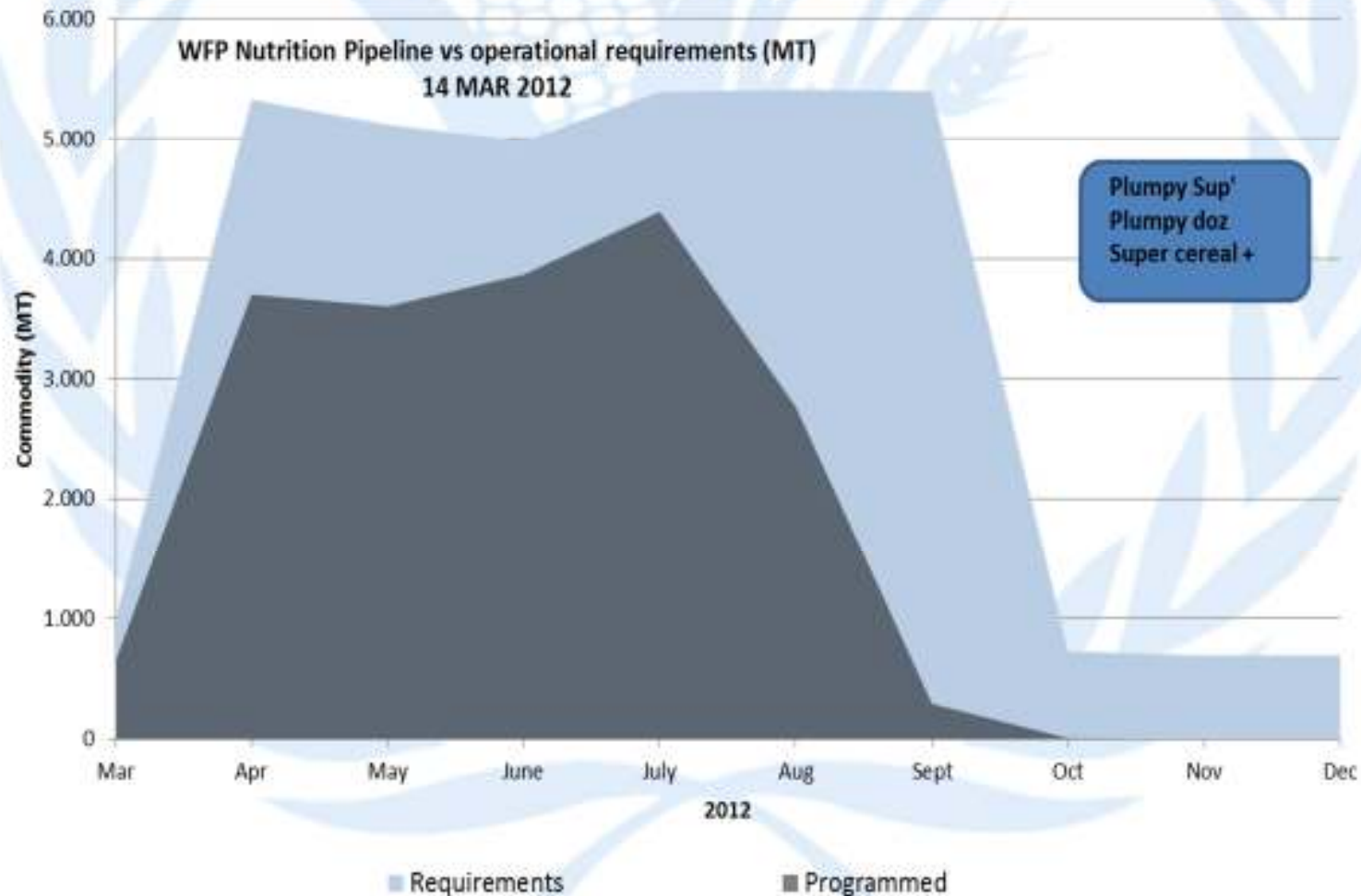
wfp.org

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## Prioritization

- When programming funds received thus far, priority has been given to the **timely purchase of nutrition products**, in order to ensure that the following activities are covered
    1. Blanket Feeding to prevent acute malnutrition in areas with a GAM prevalence > 15%
    2. Targeted Supplementary Feeding activities for MAM treatment for < 5s
    3. Blanket Feeding to prevent acute malnutrition in areas with a GAM prevalence < 15%
    4. Targeted Supplementary Feeding activities for MAM treatment for malnourished pregnant or lactating women
  - In addition, **partnerships have been strengthened** (e.g. with UNICEF) in order to ensure a coordinated, efficient and effective response
  - At the same time, **targeted food distributions** should be provided to beneficiary households to allow for maximum impact of the assistance – households with a child under two should be prioritised
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# Nutrition Pipeline versus Operational Requirements



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# WFP's Partnerships

- Governments
  - UN Agencies (UNICEF, FAO, IFAD)
  - NGOs
  - Regional Institutions
    - CILSS
    - ECOWAS
      - Support of ECOWAS' emergency food reserves initiative
    - African Union
      - Reducing barriers to movement of humanitarian supplies
      - Providing security for humanitarian actors to expand operations into concerned areas
      - Investing in programmes that enhance community-level capacity to cope with threats to food security
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# **The Forward Purchase Facility (FPF) and Regional procurement**

## **Forward Purchasing Facility (FPF)**

- Some 114,000 mt (1/5 of the total requirements )of assorted commodities for the food security and nutrition activities have been or are being procured in the region and international market.
  - A third tranche of FPF being prepared.
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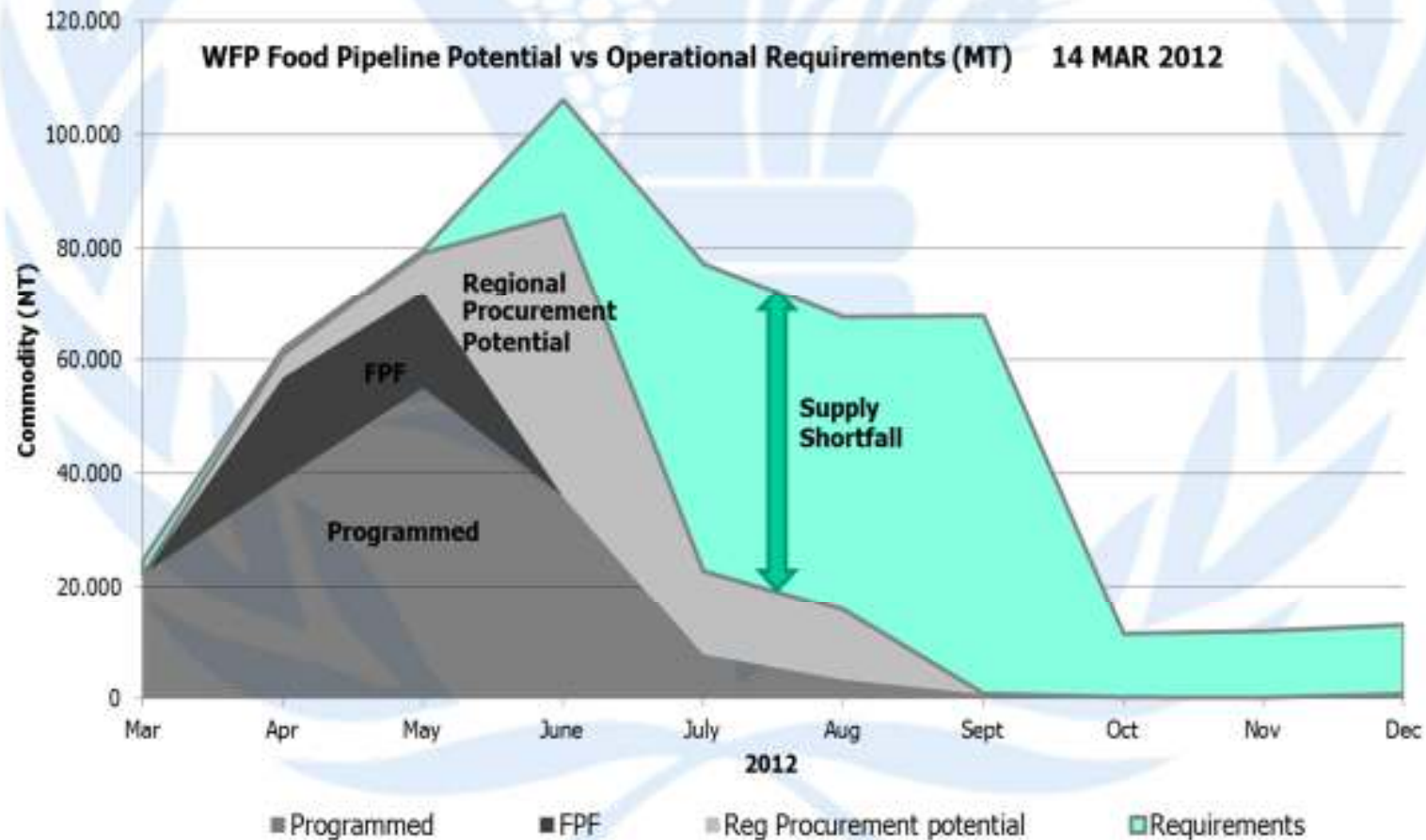
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# The Forward Purchase Facility (FPF) and Regional procurement

## WFP prioritizes regional procurement

- **Procurement assessment missions** have been carried out in Ghana, Togo, Benin, Guinea, Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire
  - Currently, procurement from **Benin, Togo and Ghana** has been confirmed/is ongoing; additional options are being explored
  - More than 30,000 mt of assorted commodities were purchased locally and regionally so far
  - 100,000 mt of assorted commodities to be purchased potentially regionally
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# Operational Requirements and Programmed Resources Timeline, including Regional Procurement and FPF Opportunities





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## **Regional Logistics augmentation in support of Sahel Drought Crisis**

- Enhance interagency logistics structures through Logistics and Emergency Telecom Clusters
  - Ensure sufficient storage capacity
  - Budget: USD 7,200,179
  - 500,000 mt of food + USD 62 million of C&V need to be distributed
  - Period: March to September 2012
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## Resourcing

- Current shortfalls for the crisis response amount to **USD 603 million** (75% of needs)
  - Additional contributions are needed urgently in order to ensure a timely response to the crisis
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## Risks and Opportunities

- **Timeliness** of response: Long lead time, late confirmation of donor contributions, and late arrival of international procurement and in-kind contributions
  - Complex **regional and local procurement**
  - **Availability of special nutritional products** for children and other vulnerable beneficiaries
  - Adequate **combination of cash/food interventions**, taking into account the varying market conditions across the region
  - Lack of **security**, and difficult access to remote areas due to insecurity and the **rainy season**
  - **Inclusion of resilience building activities** during the humanitarian response and recovery phase
  - Enhanced **complementary and sustainable partnerships**
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**Thank You**

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