MALI Regional Operational Update

Presentation to the

WFP Executive Board

2012 Forth Quarter Operational Briefing





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Background

As the response to the Sahel food security and nutrition crisis was underway in eight countries, **the Mali crisis further exacerbated needs and triggered displacement in a complex operational situation**.

To date, nearly 199,000 people are internally displaced in Mali, and over 150,000* Malians are registered as refugees in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger.

The Sahel lean season response has ended and activities have shifted towards building resilience, while **relief assistance continues to be provided to conflict-affected populations** in Mali and Malian refugees in neighbouring countries.

So far, over 100,000 IDPs and 200,000 non-displaced conflict affected people in northern Mali were provided with food and nutrition assistance. In addition, over 200,000 refugees were supported in neighbouring countries.

Framework of interventions in 2012

EMOP 200389 - Assistance to drought-affected populations in Mali

Operation: Total budget: Beneficiaries targeted: Food requirements: February – December 2012 USD 63.1 million 1 million 48,892 mt

Regional EMOP 200438 – Assistance to Refugees and IDPs

Operation: Total budget: Beneficiaries targeted: Food requirements: June 2012 – December 2012 USD 80.8 million 300,000 IDPs and 255,000 refugees 51,093 mt

Operations and Requirements

Country	Project No	Project Duration	Preliminary Estimates	
			Beneficiaries	Total Requirements (USD Mio)
Mali	EMOP 200525	1 Jan 13 to 31 Dec 13	564,000	137.80
Regional EMOP (Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger)	REG EMOP 200438	1 Jun 12 to 31 Dec 13	335,000	157.88
Mali	UNHAS SO 200521	1 Jan 13 to 31 Dec 13	N.A.	4.10
Mali	ETC and Logistics Cluster SO	1 Jan 13 to 31 Dec 13	N.A.	3.10
Preliminary Total			899,000	302.88

The total requirements and beneficiary figures are preliminary. Budget revisions and new projects are currently under preparation.

Activities in 2013 Mali

- Targeted food distributions and unconditional cash distributions
- Blanket supplementary feeding for prevention of acute malnutrition for children as well as pregnant and lactating women with an increased age coverage
- Targeted supplementary feeding for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for children as well as pregnant and lactating women in the North (limited to where medical centers are functioning)
- Emergency School Feeding

Activities in 2013 Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger

- Targeted food distributions
- Targeted Cash & Voucher distributions
- Blanket supplementary feeding for prevention of acute malnutrition
- Targeted supplementary feeding for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition
- Emergency school feeding

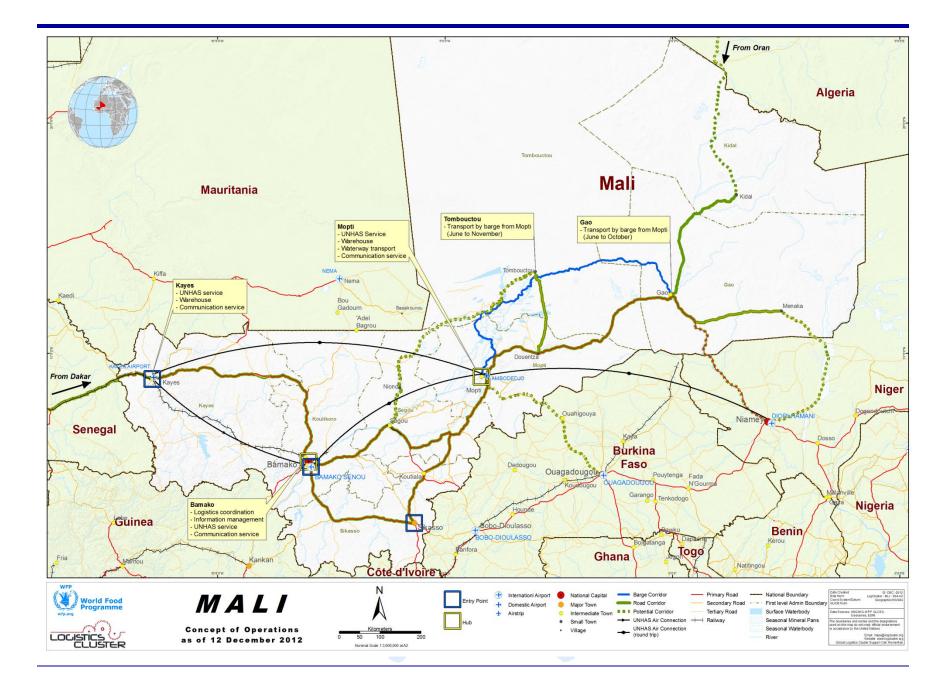
Implementation in Mali

- WFP continues to provide food assistance to affected households (IDPs, host families and vulnerable communities) in Mali that have been directly or indirectly negatively impacted by the complex crisis.
- WFP gradually scaled up its response to displaced and crisis affected people in northern Mali since July. So far, **WFP has supported 200,000 non-displaced people in the North, and 134,600 IDPs** across the country, of which 70,500 are hosted in the North.
- WFP activities are implemented in collaboration with 16 international and national NGO present in the eight regions of Mali, of which nine are working in northern Mali.

Field offices

- Country Office in Bamako, Suboffices in Mopti Kayes and Koulikoro. A new SO should be opened in Sikasso soon.
- Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal SOs have been temporarily closed since the occupation of northern Mali





Response in neighbouring countries

- WFP continues to provide food and nutrition assistance to Malian refugees in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger.
- WFP activities are implemented in collaboration with UN partners, Governments, NGOs and INGOs.

Field Offices for refugee response

Burkina Faso: CO in Ouagadougou, Dori SO
Mauritania: Aioun-el-Atrouss SO, Kiffa SO,
Bassikounou SO
Niger: Niamey Country Office, Tahoua SO

Key operational constraints

Insecurity

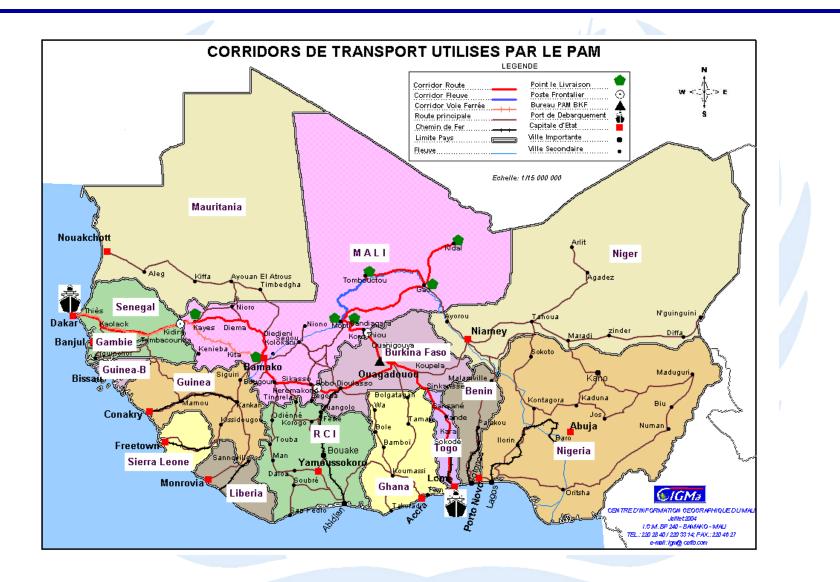
 The volatile situation continues to pose challenges in Mali where security restrictions hinder WFP's access to the North, designated a "No-Go" zone by UNDSS (level 5) for UN personnel. WFP Mali continues to work through cooperating partners to support those in need.

• A potential military intervention, and a deteriorated security situation, could lead to increased displacement, concerns over humanitarian access to populations, and increase movement restrictions, reduced humanitarian space, for partners working in Mali and neighbouring countries.

Key operational constraints

Logistical challenges

- Mali is a landlocked country and fully depends on sub-regional (air)ports for supplies. Refugee hosting countries also face the challenge of long lead times.
- With the situation in northern Mali there is a high risk of looting, hence most partners are using the "just-in-time" strategy when assistance is distributed to the beneficiaries as soon as it is delivered.
- WFP is avoiding storing large tonnages of commodities in Mopti warehouse complex as the security situation is highly volatile in this region on the frontline between government and non-government controlled regions.



Monitoring

Mali:

Monitoring activities in accessible areas are covered by WFP field monitors based in the country office and sub-offices and the M&E unit at Bamako CO level and partners.

WFP uses an independent NGO partner for third-party monitoring of its activities in the northern areas, where UN staff presence is not permitted. Capacity is being reinforced with the recruitment of M&E assistants at sub-office level.

Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger:

Food distributions for refugees are being monitored in close collaboration with WFP, UNHCR and cooperating partners. As and when required, joint needs and monitoring assessments are carried out.

Current operational priorities

Mali

- Finalize plans for 2013 under the different operations (new EMOP 200525, UNHAS SO 200521, Logistics/ETC SO), re-evaluate partner capacity and renew field agreements into 2013.
- Finalize contingency plans and back-up options in case new developments (ie. possible relocation to Segou region in case of problem in Mopti) according to the scenarios of possible military intervention, social unrest in Bamako, and others.
- Continue to closely coordinate with ICRC in the occupied North to avoid duplication and ensure interventions are complementary.
- Open the new sub-office in Sikasso region.

Critical Risks in Mali

Contextual

Intensification of the conflict, mainly in the North, with additional population displacements inside Mali and to neighbouring countries.

- Socio-political unrest in Bamako linked to the socioeconomic and political situation in-country.
- Attacks by terrorist cells in major cities, including Bamako

Programmatic

- Lack of access to the North
- Food pipeline breaks
- Looting of WFP assets
- Disruption / breakdown of the supply chain (corridors)
- Lack of available and limited partner capacity.
- Reduction in WFP's capacity to monitor and coordinate the operations (insecurity in Bamako, reduction of staff levels and movements)

Institutional

- Security risks for staff (kidnapping)
- Reputational risk linked to perception of neutrality (ECOWAS military intervention)

Summary Risk Analysis

Risks

Intensification of conflict, mainly in the North, with additional population displacements inside Mali and to neighbouring countries.

Mitigation measures

- Identify partners capable to get access to the North
- Concept of operations continuously updated in Mali and neighbouring countries.
- Regional response strategy updated in line with the evolving situation
- Finalize the emergency relocation plan of Mopti SO (to San or Segou) in coordination with the other UN Agencies.

Personnel safety (the risk of kidnapping staffs would increase; the movement would be restricted due to insecurity) Identify possible security mitigation action with Security department

Summary Risk Analysis (continued)

Risks

Socio-political unrest in Bamako, possible uprising against the international military interventions and/or the aggravating economic situation

Mitigation measures

Complete the implementation of the Minimum Preparedness Plan in Bamako CO to assure continuity of operations. Finalize the emergency relocation / evacuation plan of Bamako CO in line with the UN system security plan.

Attacks by terrorist cells in major cities in southern Mali (Bamako in particular)

Same as above

Increased popular hostility vis-à-vis the international community/UN presence in Mali

Elaborate a communication / media relation strategy to keep / strengthen the organization's positive image and mobilize public/partner support for WFP operations. Implementation of beneficiary complaints feedback mechanisms

Summary Risk Analysis (continued)

Risks	Mitigation measures	
Looting of WFP assets (Food/Non-food items, vehicles)	Prepositionning critical stock items in strategic areas.	
Lack of available and limited capability of partners due to their relocation (as already experienced in the north)	Conduct capacity assessments of current CPs and potential CPs and provide capacity- building to ensure quality intervention. Have new Field-Level Agreements ready to start as of Jan 2013 under new EMOP.	
Disruption / breakdown of the supply chain (corridors).	Reinforce alternative corridors such as Lome – Ougadougou and preposition food items in neighboring countries	
Limited or no access to beneficiaries in the North due to armed conflict	Use of third-party monitoring when feasible	

Residual Risks

- <u>Intensification of conflict and/or expansion of conflict into</u> <u>neighboring countries</u>
- Further reductions of humanitarian access and corridors
- <u>Funding shortfalls</u>
- Limited number of implementing partners

The way forward

- The prospect for military intervention in northern Mali in 2013 and socio-political tensions in southern Mali call for enhanced preparedness actions and the mobilization of resource for a timely response, when required. Interagency contingency planning is ongoing in Mali and neighboring countries. In line with these plans, WFP has drafted a specific concept for operations, including prepositioning of food.
- WFP is preparing to respond to any openings in humanitarian space, including permission by UNDSS for personnel to work in the North if the situation permits, until then WFP will continue implementing its food and nutrition activities through its cooperating partners present in the North.

Questions?





Thank You!