

CONTEXT

- Recurrent climatic shocks—including drought and seasonal floods—and protracted conflict continue to generate high levels of humanitarian need across Mali. An estimated 8.8 million people in the country are likely to require humanitarian assistance during 2023, representing a 17 percent increase from 2022 figures, the UN reports.
- Sustained armed conflict and intercommunal violence, as well as climatic shocks, have displaced approximately 412,000 people in Mali as of December 2022, according to the International Organization for Migration’s Displacement Tracking Matrix. Additionally, as of January, Mali hosted more than 63,000 refugees, the majority of whom fled insecurity in neighboring Burkina Faso, Mauritania, and Niger in recent years, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports.
- Approximately 1.2 million people across Mali are likely to face Crisis—Phase 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity during the June-to-August 2023 lean season, when food is most scarce, according to a November 2022 Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis.¹ Conflict and related displacement have led to a deterioration in food security conditions by disrupting livelihoods and restricting access to basic services, humanitarian assistance, and markets, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).
- Organized armed groups continue to drive insecurity and restrict movements along key roads, hindering humanitarian access, delaying the provision of aid, and contributing to high levels of unmet need in Mali, the Assessment Capacities Project reports.



ASSISTANCE

- USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) supports shared services, such as humanitarian coordination, information management, and assessments, to build humanitarian capacity and improve the effectiveness of relief operations in Mali. This includes support for the UN Humanitarian Air Service, which plays a key role in ensuring humanitarian access and programming in hard-to-reach areas of the country. In partnership with the International Organization for Migration, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN World Food Program (WFP), and multiple non-governmental organization (NGO) implementing partners, USAID/BHA helps to support displacement monitoring, strengthen national early warning systems for food security, and enhance host government data collection and analysis to inform humanitarian interventions.
- USAID/BHA supports the provision of emergency food assistance to reach at-risk populations—including internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host community members—in food-insecure regions of Mali. With support from

¹ CH is a standardized framework used across West Africa and the Sahel that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The CH scale is comparable across countries in West Africa and ranges from Minimal—Phase 1—to Famine—Phase 5.

USAID/BHA and other donors, WFP reached an estimated 2.8 million with life-saving food assistance in 2022. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, USAID/BHA has provided approximately \$13 million to date to reach food-insecure individuals across the country with emergency food assistance, including cash transfers; U.S.-sourced beans, vegetable oil, and wheat; and vouchers redeemable for food in local markets.

- To date in FY 2023 USAID/BHA has also provided more than \$3.8 million in nutrition assistance to support WFP in addressing acute malnutrition among conflict-affected populations, including IDPs and communities hosting displaced households in Mali. WFP is providing nutrition assistance to pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and girls to prevent acute malnutrition in central and northern Mali during the 2023 lean season.
- USAID/BHA supports the implementation of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs, including activities that respond to the outbreak of communicable diseases, such as cholera and measles, and WASH-related acute malnutrition affecting children and PLW. USAID/BHA also bolsters access to safe drinking water for IDPs, host communities, and returned IDPs in Mopti by supporting the installation and rehabilitation of handwashing stations, latrines, and water points to enable and promote optimal WASH practices.
- USAID/BHA supports early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) interventions in Mali that promote self-reliance, enabling households to cope with recurrent shocks. Since October 2020, USAID/BHA has provided sustained, multi-year funding to an NGO partner to implement a five-year program as part of the agency’s early recovery, resilience, and that aims to improve food security and resilience among conflict-affected households in Gao, Mopti, and Timbuktu by strengthening the capacity of local partners to implement food security activities and enhancing mechanisms for community participation throughout programming. In FY 2022, the NGO conducted community consultations in the regions and selected 12 priority natural resource management projects to support approximately 1,500 participants through cash-for-work activities through FY 2023, including constructing pastoral wells and rehabilitating degraded agricultural land.

| USAID/BHA Funding in Mali ² | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Emergency ³ | ER4 | TOTAL |
| FY 2022 | \$74,170,074 | \$16,086,403 | \$90,256,477 |
| FY 2023 | \$28,494,453 | – | \$28,494,453 |

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of February 17, 2023. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

³ Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.