

CONTEXT

- Protracted conflict and recurrent climatic shocks, including drought and seasonal floods, have continued to generate high levels of humanitarian need across Mali during 2023. An estimated 8.8 million people countrywide are likely to require humanitarian assistance during the year, representing a 17 percent increase from 2022 figures, the UN reports.
- Climatic shocks, armed conflict, and intercommunal violence have resulted in the displacement of approximately 375,500 people in Mali as of April, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Additionally, Mali hosted more than 64,000 refugees as of June, the majority of whom have fled insecurity in neighboring Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mauritania in recent years, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports.
- Approximately 1.26 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 historically most scarce, according to a March 2023 Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis.¹ Widespread conflict and elevated food and fuel prices continue to exacerbate acute food insecurity in Mali and hinder humanitarian actor’s ability to deliver assistance to conflict-affected areas, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP).
- Armed conflict and intercommunal violence have generated insecurity and hindered humanitarian access, contributing to high levels of unmet need in Mali throughout recent months, the UN reports. In June, the UN Security Council voted to cease peacekeeping operations, which have been ongoing in Mali since 2013, and withdraw all personnel by December 31. Relief actors have expressed concern that the withdrawal and subsequent absence of UN peacekeeping forces may result in a severe deterioration of the security situation in the country, likely further limiting vulnerable populations’ access to assistance.



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 better ensures humanitarian access and programming in hard-to-reach areas of the country. In partnership with IOM, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), WFP, and multiple nongovernmental organization (NGO) implementing partners, USAID/BHA helps to support displacement monitoring and strengthen

¹Cadre Harmonisé (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.

national early warning systems for food security, as well as enhance host government data collection and analysis to inform humanitarian interventions.

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, USAID/BHA has provided approximately \$28.7 million to date to support WFP in reaching food-insecure individuals among conflict-affected populations—including internally displaced persons (IDPs)—countrywide with emergency food and nutrition assistance and logistical support. From May to June, USAID/BHA and other donors supported WFP to provide emergency food assistance to approximately 668,000 people across Mali ahead of the June-to-August lean season. WFP also provided assistance to nearly 36,000 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and 35,000 children ages 6-23 months of age to prevent acute malnutrition, and assistance to nearly 12,500 PLW and nearly 72,000 children younger than five years of age to treat acute malnutrition during the same period.
- USAID/BHA also 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 and Timbuktu regions by supporting the installation and rehabilitation of handwashing stations, latrines, and water points to enable and promote optimal hygiene practices. Programs also provide vulnerable households with water storage and purification kits to assist in the prevention of diarrheal diseases.
- USAID/BHA supports health programs in Ménaka Region that aim to improve access to quality healthcare, provide life-saving pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, address malnutrition in children, and respond to incidents of gender-based violence for IDPs and host communities. USAID/BHA provides support for health education, health facilities, treatment for common childhood illnesses, and consultations for non-communicable diseases, mental health conditions, and trauma-related injuries.

USAID/BHA Funding in Mali ²			
	Emergency ³	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$74,170,074	\$16,086,403	\$90,256,477
FY 2023	\$71,124,144	\$11,550,322	\$82,674,466

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of August 2, 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 early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) activities with emergency response.