

### HIGHLIGHTS

- There are currently 283,000 IDPs in Mali, down 15 per cent since July.
- An Emergency Food Security Assessment conducted in CAR indicates that some 1.1 million people are food insecure and that half of all IDPs in CAR are food insecure.
- 74 per cent of households in Guinea Bissau reported that the failed cashew campaign was the principal economic shock in the past six months.
- 10,000 Nigerians have fled violence in northeast Nigeria since the State of Emergency, 80 per cent to Cameroon.
- USD\$8 billion pledged to the Sahel following a joint visit by the heads of the UN, World Bank, African Union, and the African Development Bank.

### KEY FIGURES FOR THE SAHEL

Food insecure people **11.3 Million**

Nb. of children <5 estimated SAM **1.5 Million**

Nb. of children <5 and pregnant women estimated MAM **3.4 Million**

\* As per Mid-Year Review 2013 figures

### FUNDING OF THE SAHEL STRATEGY

**2013:**  
USD\$1.71 billion requested  
USD\$ 877 million received

\* CAP and non-CAP contributions

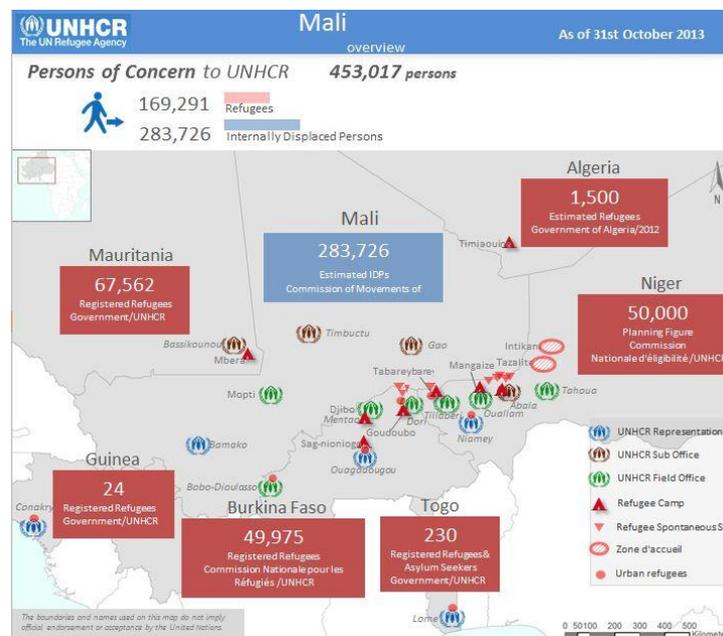


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## Mali Update: 50.000 IDPs Return since July

### Returns to the North continue despite insecurity



Latest figures reported from IOM and UNHCR, respectively, indicate that there are currently 283,000 IDPs in Mali and 169,291 Malian refugees in neighboring countries. This is a 15 per cent decrease in the overall number of IDPs in Mali, with 50,824 fewer IDPs than as reported three months ago. IDP returns to the north of the country continue despite several

incidents of insurgent-led violence.

### Majority of IDPs intend to return home

IDPs continue to express their keenness to return home. In an Intention Survey conducted by IOM/ACTED in October, 84 per cent of IDPs indicated that they intended to return to their places of origin. Since January, IOM has tracked an estimated 78,012 IDPs traveling from the south to the north. Improvement in security is the principle reason of return cited by 78 per cent of south-to-north returnees; economic opportunities are articulated by some 50 per cent.

In this reporting period, media sources have indicated at least seven high-security incidences in northern Mali, including two suicide bombings that killed two UN Peacekeepers, the kidnapping and murder of two French journalists, and violent protests of some 1,000 Malians against the local government in Gao.

An October statement by Refugee International considered that adequate measures are not in place to guarantee a voluntary, safe and dignified return to northern Mali. At the same time, in the run-up to national legislative elections slated for 24 November, the Malian government has been vocal in encouraging displaced populations to return home to the north.

#### *Facilitation of voluntary repatriation of refugees*

In October, the Mali Humanitarian Country Team approved a policy on the voluntary repatriation of Malian refugees. Conditions for safe and dignified returns entail, at a minimum, the absence of hostilities, violence, or serious violations of human rights, minimal governance to be in place, and unhindered humanitarian access. The policy further highlights that on-going attacks in the North undermine the requisite safety conditions and that basic services have yet to be restored to pre-insurgency levels in order to accommodate returnees. A recent FAO/WFP report noted significant increases in the prices of food staples rice and millet, notably in the North.

#### **Mali facing continued food insecurity and malnutrition**

According to a joint WFP/FAO/Government of Mali assessment in the Northern Mali towns of Kidal, Tombouktou, and Gao, three out of four households are vulnerable to food insecurity. Some 12 per cent of people suffer from acute malnutrition in Gao and Tombouktou, thus surpassing the ten per cent emergency threshold. One third of household food consumption is from food assistance in place since May of this year. The situation is getting worse due to the influx of returnees, according to WFP.

## Increased Food Insecurity in CAR and Guinea Bissau

### ***Increased needs in CAR linked to deteriorating security situation***



Cashew nut stock at household's level- Cabuxanque village, Guinea Bissau. Credit/ WFP

On 25 October, the Food Security Cluster met to review the preliminary findings of the recent country-wide Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA). The EFSA found that approximately 1.1 million people are food insecure in CAR and that half of IDPs in the country are food insecure. The worst affected parts of the country are in the Northwest (Ouham, Ouham-Pende and Nana Gribizi) and Northeast (Vakaga and Bamingui Bangoran) regions, though

pockets of food insecurity are found throughout the country due to the high level of displacement.

The assessment underlined that the food security situation is expected to deteriorate if violence continues. The re-emergence of conflict has caused an increase in vulnerable people and made access to them increasingly challenging.

#### ***Response***

To better assess the food security situation in Bangui, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), with its partners, is planning to conduct a Household Economy Approach

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(HEA) survey. A SMART survey is also scheduled in the coming months to assess the nutrition situation in the country. WFP has provided food to 250,000 people in CAR this year and is targeting another 25,000 before the end of the year.

### **Emergency Directors Visit CAR**

*Emergency Directors from across several UN agencies and International NGOs visited CAR from 17 to 19 October. The directors met with members of the transitional government, humanitarian actors and representatives of donor countries to discuss the humanitarian impact of the crisis on the civilian population. The mission called on the transitional government to ensure the protection of civilians and respect for international humanitarian law. During a visit to Bossangoa, where 37,000 displaced persons live, the delegation noted that the IDPs were in urgent need of food, clean water, health care and protection. In Kaga-Bandoro, the delegation visited schools converted into IDP sites. As of October, 60 per cent of schools in CAR are closed and the attendance rate is below 56 per cent.*

### **Vulnerability of rural households in Guinea Bissau due to poor cashew nut campaign**

A food security assessment in Guinea-Bissau, conducted in August by WFP, FAO, Plan International and their government partners evaluated the effects of a poor cashew marketing campaign and low market prices on household food security. The results indicate that for 74 per cent of households, the drop in cashew nut prices was one of the main shocks during the last six months, lowering income and decreasing access to basic food commodities such as rice, and leading to reliance on negative coping mechanisms.

More than half of households spend over 75 per cent of their budget on food (compared to 26 per cent in 2010), making less money available for health and education and leaving households vulnerable in the long term, particularly to malnutrition. Reliance on crisis coping mechanisms such as mortgaging the present harvest and selling productive assets limits the ability of households to emerge from the crisis on their own. The situation should stabilize after December 2013 in part due to the lowlands rice harvest in lower valleys. However, between January and April 2014, the situation will likely deteriorate due to the depletion of stocks. The evolution of the situation will depend on November's presidential elections, the ability of households to pay back their debts, and the results of the next harvest. In the short term, the assessment recommends implementing food assistance programs that help to build assets of vulnerable communities, including road and land rehabilitation projects. Nutrition and school feeding activities also continue in support of the most vulnerable children. In the medium term, recommendations include implementing local purchase programs to encourage local production, promoting small animal husbandry and encouraging local transformation of the cashew nut, especially by women.

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# Nigeria: Displacement Impacts Neighbours

## *10,000 Nigerians flee to neighboring countries*

The instability and violence in northeast Nigeria is causing displacement to the neighbouring countries. Recent figures estimate that some 10,000 Nigerians have fled the northeast states of Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe into neighbouring Cameroon, Chad, and Niger since the State of Emergency (SOE) in the three states became effective in May 2013. According to a November UNHCR report, the total of Nigerians seeking asylum in Chad, Niger, and Cameroon now stands at 17,000 since the SOE was declared in northeast Nigeria. Of the 10,000 refugees fleeing Nigeria in recent months, some 80 per cent have fled to Cameroon according to UNHCR. In early October, Cameroonian authorities reportedly attempted the refoulement of 111 Nigerian refugees from Northern Cameroon. During this process, some 15 people were reportedly killed and seven injured. UNHCR issued a communiqué urging Nigeria's neighbours against forced returns.

### **Nigerians flee to Niger**

*Regional authorities in Diffa, Niger estimate that some 37,482 people have fled northeast Nigeria for Niger since the state of emergency-- 8,385 of whom are Nigerian refugees and 28,947 of whom are returning Nigerian migrants; 150 people are third-party nationals.*

### *Violence and displacement likely to continue*

With the SOE in the northeast states of Adamawa, Yobe, and Borno now extended through May 2014, violent insurgency and counter-insurgency operations are expected to continue and cause further displacement from the northeast states. Since May 2013, an estimated 1,188 people have been killed in 45 Boko Haram-related attacks in the northeast states.

### *Nigeria and Cameroon to strengthen cooperation*

Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan has called upon Cameroon to assist its efforts to fight Boko Haram. The two countries held their first session of the Nigeria-Cameroon cross-border security committee from 9-11 November in Yaoundé. Both countries formalized a plan to secure their common border and to strengthen local administrative and security cooperation. Exchange of intelligence information at national and Governors' levels is also planned from 2014. Boko Haram violence is already crossing the border. Most recently, a French priest was reportedly kidnapped on 14 November, after providing for Nigerian refugees fleeing the violence in the northeast, some 30km from the border in the town of Koza.

### *Response to Date*

To assist neighbouring countries accommodate the new influx of refugees, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocated USD\$ 3 million in September for Nigerian refugees in Cameroon. However, increased displacement and accordant needs are likely to require additional resources.

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# Update on Resilience in the Sahel

## *Task Force Maps the on-going resilience work in the region*



Revolving Cattle Credit Program in Mali.  
Credit: WFP

A recent high-level visit to the Sahel from the heads of the UN, World Bank, African Union, and the African Development Bank has pushed forward the Resilience Agenda in the region. Endorsed by the UN Security Council in June of this year, the Resilience Agenda is part of a tripartite Integrated Strategy aiming at strengthening governance, security, and resilience to external shocks.

### *Regional Planning*

The Regional Humanitarian Coordinator (RHC), Robert Piper, is charged with coordinating the Resilience Agenda for the Sahel. To this

end, the RHC has been working with regional governments and organizations, UN agencies, NGOs and donors to adopt planning modalities that bridge the gap between humanitarian and development activities through the creation of joint planning cells and by scaling-up integrated programming. The RHC convenes a monthly Resilience Task Force which is finalizing a mapping of resilience activities in the region.

At the regional level, the Global Alliance on Resilience (AGIR Initiative) has completed a Road Map containing four regional strategic objectives and a guidance framework for implementation. The Road Map serves as the basis for formulating national resilience priorities that include operational frameworks for funding, implementation, monitoring and assessment.

### *Resilience Programming*

At the country level, governments are establishing long-term measures to address structural and chronic vulnerabilities, such as Niger's Nigeriens Nourrissent les Nigeriens (3N) program. Through the African Risk Capacity (ARC) initiative, WFP Senegal has begun piloting the implementation of an insurance scheme that supports Village Grain Banks (VGB) in eastern, central and Casamance regions. Through this program community members put food in VGBs after harvest season that they can then access during the lean season either for consumption or sale at reduced prices.

## **USD\$8 Billion Pledge to the Sahel**

*Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and the heads of the World Bank, African Development Bank and the African Union travelled together to Mali, Mauritania, and Niger from 2-4 November to highlight issues facing the region, and commit their institutional support to providing assistance and building resilience for its people. The visit concluded with a USD\$8 billion pledge.*

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# New Humanitarian Appeals Process for the Sahel

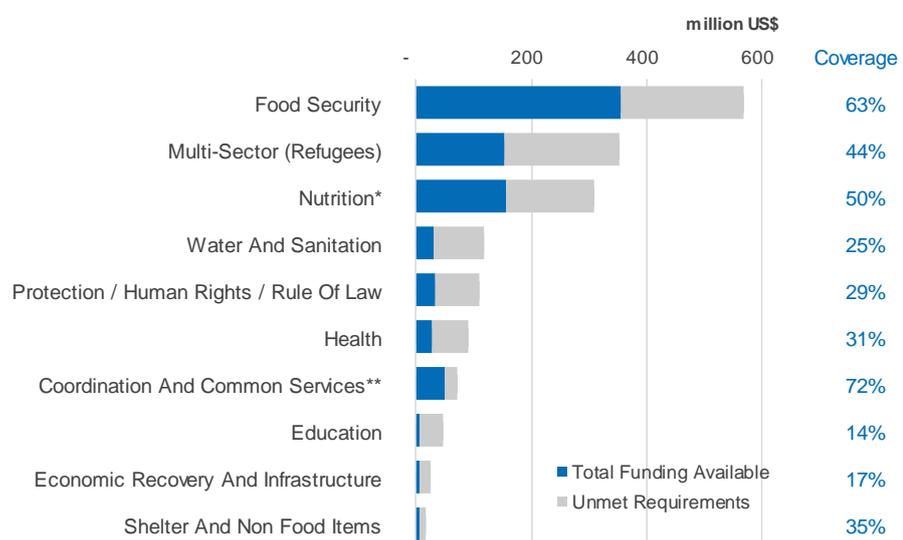
## **Humanitarian partners will meet to define needs and response strategy**

From 28-29 November, the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sahel (RHC) is convening governments, Humanitarian and Resident Coordinators, Cluster Coordinators, Regional Directors, NGOs, Donors, and Chairs of Regional Sector Working Groups in a workshop to plan the humanitarian response for the Sahel for next three years. Participants to the workshop will finalize the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) in the Sahel and outline the Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for 2014-2016. Objectives of the workshop are three-fold: (1) to reach a shared understanding of humanitarian needs in the region; (2) to identify shared strategic objectives and indicators for a 3-year regional response strategy for the Sahel; and (3) to agree on procedures and timelines for strategic response strategies.

The HNO and SRP processes replace the traditional humanitarian appeals process, known as the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP). The regional humanitarian Sahel Strategy for 2014-2016 will be launched at a high-level event in early February 2014.

## Funding Status Overview

### Funding at 51 per cent per cent towards the end of 2013



To date, the Sahel has received 51 per cent (\$877 million) of the USD\$1.71 billion requested—a nearly ten per cent increase (or USD\$ 78 million) as compared to October. Very slight increases are noted in different sectors, such as Food Security and Nutrition. However, WASH, agriculture and education remain seriously underfunded. Additional and more balanced funding is needed to address the pressing needs of the Sahel and to move people out of the crisis.

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