I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Since 2nd July, a cholera outbreak was declared in Wabaria district located by the River Niger (in Gao). As of 18th July, 58 cases were recorded with six fatalities throughout the country.
- Conflict and insecurity led to displacement on a large-scale. The number of displaced persons within Mali is estimated at 174,003 (Protection Cluster/WFP estimates as of 17th July 2012) and some 248,935 refugees were registered in the neighbouring countries as of 25th July (UNHCR/Protection Cluster).
- A faltering agricultural season with locust infestation threat and a limited access to land induce a deficit in grain and fodder production in the regions of Tombouctou, Gao, Mopti and Segou, resulting in the persistence of food and nutrition crisis.
- Out of the 4.6 million people affected by the food security and nutrition crisis in the country, approximately 1.6 million live in northern Mali where access is limited.

II. Situation Overview

Recent political developments

The Transitional Government, following the agreement between ECOWAS and the CNRDRE (Comité National de Redressement pour la Démocratie et la Restauration de l’Etat) Framework signed on April 6 2012, developed a roadmap for ending the crisis with the main objective to manage the crisis in Northern Mali as well as preparing and securing the electoral process in 2013.

ECOWAS passed a resolution that requires the formation of a unity government, coupled with a threat of sanctions against those who would oppose the resolution. A technical mission of ECOWAS was deployed to Mali in order to assess the feasibility of an external military intervention.

Ansar Dine, Mujao and AQIM are currently occupying three of the nine regions in Mali, all of them located in northern Mali; Gao, Kidal and Tombouctou. Six self-defense movements called the United Forces of Patriotic Resistance declared their intention to intervene in the North to liberate the country. The Mujao agreed to set free six hostages, three Algerians kidnapped in Gao in March 2012 and three Europeans kidnapped in Algeria in October 2011.
Humanitarian overview
WFP in collaboration with its partners launched a survey on households food security in the major areas of IDPs concentration in Mali. This survey will take into account the basic elements of nutrition and WASH as well. The survey will cover the zones most affected by the food crisis (8 regions in Mali), with a nutritional and political inclusion of Tombouctou, Gao and Kidal depending on the security constraints and the availability of field partners. The data collection exercise will be taking place from mid-July to the first week of August. The results and final report of the Emergency Food Security Assessment are expected for the first week of September. Another exercise is being conducted by IOM and the Protection Cluster and its goal is to monitor the IDPs within the country and the relative population movements. Currently the survey is undergoing in Bamako and so far 11,082 individuals and 2,268 families were surveyed, the first report is available on the Mali Humanitarian Response website. The Protection Cluster has deployed the survey in the three northern regions of Mali and the results of the profiling are expected for end of August. The curve of the cholera epidemic that began in early July is on a down phase. Anticipating potential pockets of crisis; sectorial working groups and task forces for the cholera response have been established.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response in Mali

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Humanitarian needs:
1. Funding required for the cluster partners,
2. Urgent food Assistance to the affected populations (4.6 million in total).
3. Agricultural Campaign 2012-2013: need of support in seeds, fertilizer, small tools and technical support,

Response:
Malian government: In response to the emergency plan to the food crisis in Mali, the government has completed its general food distribution program. 45,886 tons of cereal were dispatched in 104 communes of the regions of Kayes, Segou, Mopti and Tombouctou, where 1.7 million persons were considered to be facing severe food insecurity. The Malian government also confirmed the con payment of certain amounts, which completed their global contribution to XOF 16.611 billion in support to this emergency response plan.

With the support of the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) and WFP, the Malian Red Cross undertook distributions of food, certified seeds and cattle’s food in the regions of Sikasso, Kayes and Koulikoro. A total of 250 tons of cattle’s food were provided for 5,000 breeders and 149.5 tons of certified seeds (mainly corn, sorghum and niebe) were delivered to 42,250 beneficiaries. 667,1 tons of food were provided by WFP to the same beneficiaries of the seed protection.

In the areas north of Mopti, WFP has delivered immediate food assistance to an estimated 50,300 conflict-affected beneficiaries in Tombouctou, Gao and Kidal regions. WFP has agreements with six cooperating partners for activity implementation in the armed group occupied northern regions (CARE, Africare, Handicap International, Islamic Relief, Action Contre la Faim, Norwegian Church Aid).

WFP food assistance activities are ongoing in the southern areas of Kayes, Koulikoro, Segou, Sikasso and Mopti. They include general food distributions, food for work and cash transfers. WFP is preparing the implementation of a food-for-work/seeds protection project for 25,100 beneficiaries affected by the drought and food insecurity in cooperation with the Malian Red Cross.

AGRICULTURE

Response:
In Mopti region, AGA KHAN Foundation has already distributed rice seeds to 5,942 beneficiaries to develop 13,135 hectares. The distribution activity is ongoing in the cercle of Djenne (Mopti region) with the distribution of 29.091 tons to ensure the ground for 363 hectares.
FAO targeted seeds and agricultural kits for distributions which started in June and are still ongoing in the regions of Koulikoro, Kayes, Ségou, Sikasso and Mopti. 93.542 tons of fertilizer, agricultural kits and 509.5 tons of certified seeds of food-producing and maraichers have been distributed. FAO is discussing with partners for a better coverage of the regions of Tombouctou, Kayes, Koulikoro, Ségou and Mopti.

FAO is supporting the breeders in Kayes and Koulikoro with ongoing distributions of 2,020 goats, 340 billy goats, 868 tons of cattle’s food, 1.4 tons of salt licks, 3,340 kits of veterinary products and 30,000 poultries.

The National Federation of Cattle and Meat Sector in Mali (FEBEVIM) together with SNV (Dutch Development organization) and CECI (Canadian Economic and Cooperation International Center) are calling for an urgent support to assist the breeders in the north zones of the country. Discussion is ongoing with FAO in Mali.

FEBEVIM reported that the crisis in the North of Mali has a considerable impact on the livestock, difficult access to the cattle food for the breeders due to the high cost, the inaccessibility of certain zones of pasture due to insecurity; excessively high rate of mortality within the livestock in transhumance because of pronounced fodder deficit in the band “Sahélo-Saharienne” and the low availability of water for cattle. This awkward situation justifies the low exchange rate of the cattle.

**Gaps and constraints:**
1. Secure access to the northern regions of Gao, Tombouctou and Kidal to all humanitarians actors.
2. Adequate funding of the Cluster members’ activities.

**NUTRITION**

**Needs:**
- An increase in cases of acute malnutrition due to the lean season running from July to August is expected by the Cluster partners. Based on the 2011 SMART survey it is estimated that in 2012 there will be a caseload of 175,00 children at risk of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) which 87% of these are expected in the southern regions. 385,000 children at risk of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).
- To be able to obtain updated data on the nutritional status of children aged in between 6 and 59 months the SMART survey is planned for the month of August. The survey will take place in the 6 accessible southern regions while the three regions remaining will not be surveyed due to the ongoing security issues in the north of Mali. The results of the SMART survey are expected for mid–September.

**Response:**
Based on a comparative analysis, admissions of Moderate Acutely Malnourished children in URENAM, and Severe Acutely Malnourished children in URENAS and URENI increased dramatically from quarter one 2011 to quarter one 2012. URENAM admissions in quarter 1 2011 were: 16,594 while in Quarter 1 2012: 51,278 with an overall increase rate of 209%. For the same period of time URENAS had an evolution rate of 239% passing from 5,452 admissions in quarter 1 2011 to 18,468 in quarter 1 2011. URENI in the first quarter of 2011 admitted 1,317 children while for the same period in 2012 the admissions were 1,773 with an evolution rate of 35%.

Between January and March 2012, 71,519 children suffering from acute malnutrition were admitted into nutritional care units. In the same period of the year before, 2011 there were only 23,363 admissions. The
data of this analysis is collected by the Malian Authorities and does not include the three northern regions of Mali.

The Ministry is soon expected to issue nutritional results for the second quarter of 2012. The cluster partners’ scaling up results for Week 28 show that:
- 434 children were admitted for treatment of severely acute malnutrition
- 51 children were admitted for treatment of severely acute malnutrition with complications
- 1324 children were admitted for treatment of moderately acute malnutrition

The 12 NGOs partners of the cluster are supporting the national response to nutrition needs and are scaling up interventions in 17 of the 60 health districts in Mali. UNICEF has supported this activity by distributing 14,446 cartons of ready to use therapeutic food around Mali.

WFP preliminary data showed that in June 2012 77,218 children aged 6-23 months benefited from blanket feeding activities in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Segou, Sikasso, and Mopti. A further 3,354 pregnant and lactating women were also reached.

The results from the week of nutrition intensification activities, supported by UNICEF, WHO and HKI, from June 29 and July 2 2012 in the six southern regions were:
- i) Vitamin A – 94% of the target 5.26 million children aged 6 to 59 months reached, and 67% of the target post-partum women reached; ii) Deworming with Abendazole – 93% of the target 4.74 million children aged 12 to 59 months reached, and 66% of the target 146,176 post-partum women reached.

In Bamako region 184 health workers (approximately 3 persons per community health centre) were trained on the protocol of management of acute malnutrition and infant and young child feeding from July 9 to 13, 2012. Nationally the training program, supported by UNICEF, targets 3,359 health workers, for whom 272 have been trained to date. Training includes cross-sectoral aspects such as WASH. In the next week, training will be scaled up for staff from the regional directorates of health in the regions of Kayes and Koulikoro.

Gaps and constraints:
- Partners operating in the northern regions face operational difficulties with activities regularly interrupted by fighting between the armed groups
- Some health centres do not report regularly on the usage of nutritional supplies, including RUTF and RUSF, leading to some temporary supply local stock outs. UNICEF, the Ministry of Health and the Cluster partners have set up a mechanism to re-supply quickly the districts.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Needs:
- The overall situation in the northern Mali is of great concern. With the lack of functional government, WASH cluster partners in the north are responsible to ensure continuous monitoring of the urban water networks. In most of the urban centers, water networks are barely functioning because of a lack of generator and pump maintenance, a lack of training of water point operators and lack of consumables such as fuel and chlorine.

Response:
Since the onset of the crisis in the north UNICEF, with ECHO’s support, has provided 1,730 WASH and non-food item (NFI) kits, benefitting 10,380 internally displaced and vulnerable persons in Tombouctou, Kidal, Gao, Mopti and Ségou. UNICEF works through partners to ensure these supplies reach beneficiaries, and in the last two weeks ACF distributed 2,000 WASH prevention kits to vulnerable families in Gao town, alongside providing awareness raising sessions on cholera prevention. ACF also provided soap, water treatment tablets, jerry cans, and chlorine for the local health centre. IRC distributed 1,000 WASH/NFI kits in Tinabao and Anderamboukane to support IDPs that fled urban areas to gather around ponds and other open water sources. In Gao, IRC is planning to distribute a further 9,000 cholera prevention kits in Labbezanga, Ouataboune, Ansongo, Bazi Haoussa and Bara along the Niger river. ICRC repaired the second borehole in Wabaria which led to a rapid improvement in terms of water access (quantity and quality) for 900 people.
IRC, in collaboration with UNICEF, continues to provide fuel to ensure water supply for 34,000 people for one month in Ménaka city, Gao Region.

In Tombouctou region, which has been strongly hit by cholera during previous outbreaks, Solidarité Internationale continues to distribute hygiene kits to 5,200 families, alongside awareness raising on the use of the kits. Solidarités has also provided a three-month donation of chlorine for water in Nianfuké town, Timbuktu region.

UNICEF and the WASH cluster coordinator conducted a planning mission to Mopti region to support the Regional Health Directorate, and local partners to develop a regional cholera prevention and response action plan. Mopti has been identified as a particularly vulnerable location due to caseload in previous epidemics, the high number of IDPs and the limited number of partners in the region.

Gaps and constraints:
- NGOs have managed to start up activities in northern Mali in response to the conflict, malnutrition crisis and the cholera outbreak.
- Funding against the national and WASH sector partners
- Cholera plans are urgently required to limit the further spread of cholera in the already complex northern operating environment.

HEALTH

Needs:
- Strengthening of epidemiological surveillance for early warning and rapid response. Outbreak of cholera in Gao and Ansongo.
- Development of contingency plans to prepare a counterattack against the epidemics (cholera, malaria) and to strengthen the humanitarian system in case of eventual propagations of epidemics in the future.

Response:
The epidemiological situation is still marked by the outbreak of cholera that began July 2, 2012 at Wabaria in the Gao region. At 20 July, 58 cases with 6 deaths are identified representing a fatality rate of 10.6%. Anticipating a possible outbreak of cholera because of the rainy season, the health cluster has defined a strategy in the ongoing development of a contingency plan and a response scorecard with a mapping of stakeholders. A task force is entirely devoted to the management of this epidemic, composed of: National Department of Health, WHO, UNICEF, ACTED, SOLIDARITES, IRC, FSF, WATER AID, WORLD VISION

The Health Cluster with the support of the French Cooperation and UNFPA has sent the second humanitarian mission to the north. The mission is composed of 60 qualified health workers (surgeons, gynecologists, doctors, midwives and anesthetists health technicians). The interventions of this humanitarian mission will cover the regions of Kidal, Timbuktu and GAO. MDM has reopened all services at the hospital in Kidal (including surgery and maternity care) and 11 Community Health Centres (CESCOM), including 9 in Kidal and two others in Anéffif and Abeibara. The ICRC is supporting the hospital in Gao with a humanitarian team consisting of surgeons, a gynecologist and an anesthetist.

Gaps and constraints:
- There is an urgent need of donor support for the accomplishment of operational objectives. The financial support will strengthen the capacities of stakeholders who do not have adequate resources currently.

LOGISTICS / UNHAS

The logistics cluster is coordinating with OCHA on border crossing and taxes issues for humanitarian assistance coming in the country, mainly through Niger. Ongoing work on the definition of a fuel contingency plan as well as standard operating procedures for the logistics cluster services provision to the humanitarian community in Mali. Further information is available at www.logcluster.org. Moreover, the
logistics cluster is staying ready to support the WASH and the Health clusters in their cholera response if assistance is requested.

The UNHAS user group committee will meet for the first time on 25 July. With the reopening of the international Senou airport in Bamako between Tuesdays and Thursdays, UNHAS has resumed flights on these days. The flight schedule is available on the Logistics Cluster website and the Mali Humanitarian Response site.

**EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The deployment of emergency telecommunications services to equip the new UN common office facility in Mopti is underway. The Communication Center - Radio room installation was finalized. The programming of VHF/HF radios and the equipment installation for the Common Data services in Mopti are ongoing.

**EDUCATION**

**Needs:**
According to the Education Cluster Assessment published on July 10 in the six southern regions of Mali:

- 27% of displaced students who were previously in school have dropped out;
- To help children access school displaced households need support with school canteens and pedagogical materials;
- There is a strong need for teacher training on Peace Building and Conflict Prevention;

**Response:**
According to the National Centre for School Canteens (CNCS), there are 1,134 schools canteens in Southern Mali (the Government, CRS and WFP being the major actors), of which 83% are functional. However the current geographical distribution of school canteens in southern Mali does not meet the needs of the displaced students and the candidates for catch-up courses. For example, among the 2,881 displaced students in the basic cycle in Bamako, there are only five functional school canteens. The CNCS, with the support of the Education Cluster, is finalizing an advocacy note on school canteens in southern Mali and the linkages with displaced students and candidates for catch-up courses.

**Cri de Cœur,** a national NGO, is collecting data on examination centres in Bamako and Mopti to define the needs for administration of examination, transport and food for students.

**UNICEF** has deployed an education expert to Mopti region, at the border with the region of Tombouctou, to assist the local authorities’ emergency response to student displacement. In Segou region UNICEF is supporting the coordination of the education in emergency response, including data collection and the distribution of pedagogical materials for displaced students in 7 primary schools.

Save the Children has finalised the distribution of 613 school kits for 333 displaced girls and 280 displaced boys as well as 30 recreational kits and 42 teachers’ kits in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro and Ségou.

Oxfam in partnership with AADeC, a national NGO, has conducted a restitution workshop on a study identifying socio-cultural constraints for the transition of girls from Basic Education 1 to Basic Education 2. This workshop will be the basis for the upcoming ‘Girls Can’ project to be implemented in 25 schools and 16 villages in three communes of Kati circle, Koulikoro region.

**Gaps and constraints**

- More information is needed on needs of catch-up classes to affected school children who are not sitting for final examinations.
- More information is needed on the situation and needs of students who remain in the North in order to better monitor and respond to their needs
- According to the Education Cluster’s Assessment, only 2% of the surveyed schools have received support from partners since March 2012. This is due to a lack of funding, with only 4% of the education sector CAP needs funded to date.
Commission on Population Movements:

- IOM has set up and deployed a survey for monitoring the IDPs situation in Mali. The form of the survey was shared and approved throughout the Clusters. The first round of the survey was rolled out in Bamako and 11,082 individuals and 2,268 families were surveyed within the 6 communes of Bamako and IOM was able to identify their vulnerabilities, needs, age, gender, the cause of the displacement and the transition points during the movements.
  - 84% of the IDPs surveyed stated that the conflict in the north was their cause of displacement, while 15% have been moving due to the food crisis and the remaining 1% for sanitation purposes.
  - The report will be shared with the Humanitarian community through the OCHA platform, please visit [http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info](http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info) for more detailed information related to the survey.
  - The Commission on Population Movements together with WFP estimated that in Mali, throughout the country there is a total number of 174,003 IDPs as highlighted in the table just above.

Child protection:

- UNICEF is monitoring the current situation related to the recruitment of children by armed groups; reports received state that the number of recruited children has grown to 194 and all of them are boys between the ages of 12 and 15 years old.
- In Gao Region, 207 separated children were identified during the reporting period, bringing the total number of separated and unaccompanied children which were identified to 1,263, of whom 709 are in the north and 445 in the South. UNICEF together with IRC, Save the Children, AJDM, BNCE, Plan and local NGOs has been training 88 persons from NGOs and government institutions in the regions of Koulikoro, Segou, Sikasso and Mopti in the identification, documentation and family reunification process of the separated and unaccompanied children.
- 8 recreational spaces that currently accommodate 223 children have been established or reactivated in Gao region; UNICEF has supported these centers by distributing recreational kits.

Mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO):

- 52 victims of UXO have been identified so far since April 12 in the zones affected by the conflict. 27 of these accidents took place in the northern regions from March to June 2012. These accidents injured 10 persons and lead to 42 victims; 50 % of the these were children (19 boys and 2 girls).
- A campaign related to risk reduction on explosive devices and landmines (ERW) has been launched and was conducted in Sévaré IDP camp, in Mopti, targeting 165 people which 80 of them were children.
- UNHCR will distribute educational posters and leaflets related to the ERW campaign.

Gaps and constraints:

- Access to collect and verify data on child’s rights abuses in the north of the country remains a challenging issue as well as the information related to child recruitment and mine/UXO accidents. UNICEF is working with the community representatives to monitor child rights.
- Lack of funding remains a challenge for the Protection Cluster partners; the sub-cluster has a gap of USD 1 million.
IV. Coordination

The OCHA staff attended the Cluster meetings and is starting the overall Cluster Coordination process as well as the Information Management support and delivery of specific ad hoc products. A global website was created by OCHA for supporting and disseminating the Cluster products and initiatives and status of activities. The platform’s function is as well to be an IM Coordination website were partners will be able to find a wide range of information related to the Mali Crisis, including the cluster relative maps. For more details please visit http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info.

V. Funding

As of 23 July, and according to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors had provided $89 million to respond to the crisis in Mali, or 42.1 per cent of the $213 million required.

| 213 million required (US$) | 42.1% funded |

VI. Contact

Bamako: Fernando Arroyo, Head of Office, OCHA Mali
E-mail: arroyof@un.org, Tel: +223 79 44 13 15

New York: Sune H. Gudnitz, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, OCHA NY
E-mail: Gudnitz@un.org, Tel. +1 212 963 2352

For more information, please visit: http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info & http://ochaonline.un.org/rowca
To be added or deleted from this sitrep mailing list, please e-mail: ochareporting@un.org or visit: http://ochaonline.un.org