



Humanitarian Crisis in Mali

Growing needs and funding shortfalls continue to place lives at risk

Country:	Mali
Emergency type:	Protracted conflict, climate change and displacement
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Key Figures



Highlights

 The humanitarian situation in Mali remains critical. Ongoing armed conflict, particularly in the northern and central regions, has intensified, worsening an already fragile environment. This escalation has led to widespread displacement, forcing entire communities to flee in search of safety, including women and girls who are vulnerable to gender-based violence (GBV). Localized violence, insecurity, and the targeting of aid workers have further restricted the operational space for humanitarian organizations, hindering their ability to



deliver assistance effectively, including life-saving GBV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services.

- The scale of humanitarian aid falls drastically short of the growing needs. In 2024, 4.1 million people were identified as requiring assistance, yet only 1.8 million received aid. This gap is largely due to critical funding shortages, leaving organizations struggling to address even the most urgent needs.
- The future of humanitarian assistance remains uncertain amid funding cuts. The freezing of key funding streams and the withdrawal of major donors will have severe consequences, limiting the capacity of aid organizations to sustain or expand their operations.
- On January 28, a briefing on the Mali Humanitarian Response Plan was held in Geneva for member states. Mr. Khassim Diagne, the UN's RC/HC ad interim for Mali, and Minister of Health and Social Development Ms. Assa Badiallo Toure were in attendance. The briefing underscored the urgent need for both humanitarian aid and long-term development investments to address the root causes of the crisis. Minister Toure highlighted the severity of forced displacement, climate-related challenges, and food insecurity.

Situation Overview

- The 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) for Mali has recently been published, highlighting the urgent humanitarian crisis in the country. According to the plan, 6.4 million people in Mali are in dire need of humanitarian assistance and protection. Of these, 4.7 million individuals are targeted by the Humanitarian Response Plan, including 24 per cent women and 53 per cent children. This response aims to provide life-saving aid and protection, ensuring the survival and dignity of those most in need. To address this crisis, the Government of Mali, along with the humanitarian community, is launching an appeal for US\$771.3 million. The plan focuses on meeting the immediate needs of vulnerable populations affected by armed conflict, displacement, health emergencies, and climate-related shocks.¹
- The deterioration of the situation has led to significant population displacement, primarily
 affecting women and girls. In total, RRM actors identified and validated 12 alerts across
 various regions (4 in Gao, 1 in Kidal, 4 in Mopti, 1 in Ségou, and 2 in Timbuktu), impacting
 2,953 households or 16,384 individuals. Among those affected, 73 per cent were women
 and children.

UNFPA Response

Despite challenges related to access and funding, UNFPA successfully provided SRH services to 6,656 individuals and GBV prevention and response services to 2,627 individuals. Key interventions included:



- Integrated SRH and GBV Services: 1,836 individuals received support through mobile teams.
- **GBV Survivors' Care:** 2,627 people were reached with GBV prevention, mitigation and response activities, including receiving holistic care at One Stop Centers.
- **Reproductive Health Kit Distribution:** 43 reproductive health (RH) kits and 4 Depot Medroxyprogesterone Acetate Subcutaneous (DMPA-SC) kits were distributed across 5 Centres de Santé de Référence (CSRef) and hospitals. These kits contain essential medicines, family planning supplies, and emergency obstetric care materials to ensure safe deliveries and treat obstetric emergencies. They are expected to benefit over 1,000 individuals.
- **Dignity Kit Distribution:** Through the Rapid Response Mechanism, dignity kits were provided to 2,066 women and 1,440 girls newly displaced by conflict.
- **Mental Health Services:** 396 individuals received psychological care and participated in mental health awareness campaigns.
- Family Planning: 503 new users accessed family planning methods.

Results Snapshots



NFI 1,440

Dignity kits distributed to individuals



Coordination Mechanisms

Gender-Based Violence:

- Monthly coordination meetings for AoR members in Bamako, and the regions of Gao, Timbuktu, and Mopti.
- Development of humanitarian response monitoring tools, including the 5Ws (Who, What, Where, When, Why), funding tracking, and training tools.
- Orientation session for GBV sub-cluster members on the online Project Module platform, designed to streamline the management of humanitarian projects.
- Conducting a specific GBV assessment for IDPs in Sarema (Mopti Center Region)

Sexual and Reproductive Health:

- Providing guidance to members of the SRH working group on the SRH indicators and targets outlined in the HRP 2025.
- Offering guidance and supporting the submission of SRH projects through the Platform Project module (HRP).

Funding Status

In 2025, UNFPA Mali aims to mobilize \$18 million to effectively reach its target populations. In January, \$4.2 million has been secured for ongoing projects in 2025, including contributions from the UNFPA Emergency Fund / Humanitarian Thematic Fund, CERF, and the Government of the USA (USAID/BHA), as well as for multi-year projects funded by the Government of South Korea (KOICA). Of this, \$1.9 million is allocated to GBV interventions, and \$2.3 million is dedicated to sexual and reproductive health interventions. This leaves a funding gap of \$14.4 million, or 76 per cent of the total required to meet current needs.

UNFPA Mali is grateful for the generous support of the following donors:

- CERF (OCHA): \$1,682,244
- Government of USA (USAID/BHA): \$1,343,017 (partially on hold)
- Government of South Korea (KOICA): \$ 1,150,000 (roll over from Year 1 and Year 2) Multiyear programme (3 years)
- UNFPA Emergency Fund / Humanitarian Thematic Fund: \$91,368 (roll over from 2024)

