Highlights

- From 9 to 13 November, food security partners including government, UN and NGO representatives met in Nouakchott to conduct the vulnerability classification exercise using the harmonized framework methodology.

Situation Update

- An estimated 150,000 people are severely food insecure (HF Phase III-Crisis) country wide, meaning they do not get sufficient food to live an healthy life. Without urgent assistance to protect livelihoods, reduce food consumption gaps, and reduce acute malnutrition an additional 370,000 people could cross the crisis threshold by June.

- As per the SMART nutrition survey conducted in June an estimated 137,445 children under five and 62,939 pregnant and nursing women are projected to suffer from global acute malnutrition in 2016.

- Under the leadership of the UN humanitarian coordination agency OCHA, actors are finalizing the response plan for 2016 to assist most vulnerable populations affected by food insecurity and malnutrition as well as Malian refugees in Mberra camp.

WFP Response

Food and Nutrition Assistance to Mauritanian Population

- In October, WFP assisted 126,022 food insecure people through food distributions using cash or food.

- 13,695 children below five and 3,818 PLW suffering from moderate acute malnutrition received assistance. 19,944 children below two years old and 16,794 women highly vulnerable to malnutrition benefited from prevention intervention. WFP also extended assistance to 549 nutrition centre volunteers. Nutrition intervention were conducted in Assaba, Gogol, Guidimakha, Hodh Echargui, Hodh El Gharbi and Tagant.
Emergency assistance to Malian refugees

- WFP implemented monthly food distribution reaching 49,121 refugees; 94% of all intended beneficiaries. Beneficiaries received a full ration except for salt.
- WFP provided target supplementary feeding to 577 malnourished children below five years old and 133 undernourished pregnant and nursing women received assistance.
- WFP also implemented blanket supplementary feeding distributions reaching 6,928 children under five and 1,353 pregnant and nursing women.
- Emergency school feeding distributions resumed with the beginning of the school year. 3,370 pre-primary and primary school children received a daily snack in school.

Logistics

- On 2 October and 19 October, UNHAS conducted 2 medical evacuations for UNHCR from Bassiknou to Nouakchott.
- On 20 October, UNHAS facilitated the mission of WFP executive director to Bassiknou.
- UNHAS services were used to transport 216 aid workers and 2,302kg of light cargo in 25 rotations between Nouakchott and Bassiknou.

Partnerships

- For the implementation of its activities, WFP collaborates with the national coordination body for Food Security (CSA), the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Development (MAED), the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock, the Ministry of health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, FAO, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, a member of the CICR and 21 national and international NGO partners.

Resourcing Update

- WFP faces a funding gap of approximately US$14 million to cover its operations for the next six months until the end of April 2016.
- WFP urgently needs 2,968 tons of food and USD 2.9 million worth of cash transfer to continue to provide assistance food insecure and highly vulnerable people to protect their live and livelihood. Without additional resources WFP will be forced to cut down its assistance.
- WFP needs to secure US$9.7 million or 7,239mt of food to maintain school feeding distributions to 84,640 primary school children. If no additional funds is receive WFP will be force to suspend distribution as of end of December.
- An additional US$0.9 million representing 187 tons of food are needed to maintain vital assistance to nearly 50,000 Malian refugees in Mberra camp until end of the year.

Contacts

- Janne Suvanto, Country Director et Representative of WFP Mauritania: janne.suvanto@wfp.org
- Marie-Joëlle Jean-Charles, Donor Relations and Reports Officer: mariejo.jncharles@wfp.org

WFP Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Duration</th>
<th>Planned number of people</th>
<th>Total requirements (in US$)</th>
<th>Total received (in US$)</th>
<th>6 month shortfall* (%)</th>
<th>People Assisted October 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRRO 200640</td>
<td>7/14-12/16</td>
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<td>5.5</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* November 2015– April 2016;** school feeding distributions will start in November 2015;***For operation in Mauritania only — shortfall until end of December 2015