**WFP response**

WFP has been assisting Malian refugees fleeing the conflict in northern Mali since early 2012 in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger through a regional emergency operation. Simultaneously in Mali, WFP has been providing immediate food assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and returnees through a protracted relief and recovery operation.

As the emergency operation came to an end at the end of 2015, in 2016 WFP will integrate the assistance to Malian refugees in neighboring countries in their respective protracted relief and recovery operations, targeting overall 136,000 people with both food and cash support.

**Mali**

Although some populations displaced due to the conflict have started to slowly return to government-controlled areas in the north of the country, larger scale returns are still hampered by the volatile security situation and by the operating context across northern Mali, which has deteriorated. As the situation continues to evolve, the population’s needs are changing accordingly. WFP’s focus is thus shifting from general food distribution (GFD) to building resilience in northern Mali, all the while maintaining immediate support through a mixed ration of food, cash assistance and targeted nutrition support.

**Burkina Faso**

Some 32,000 refugees are expected to remain in Burkina Faso for the foreseeable future, exacerbating an already fragile food security situation and placing additional pressure on vulnerable host populations. WFP will continue to assist the refugees in the camps of the Goudeou and Mentao through food rations, cash-based transfers and targeted nutrition support, with the goal of improving food and increasing social cohesion between refugees and host populations.

**Mauritania**

In Mauritania, Malian refugees live in Mbera camp in the south-east of the country, where opportunities for self-reliance are limited. After three years in Mauritania, their situation remains fragile, leading WFP and partners to explore ways to further enhance their resilience.

In 2016, WFP aims to continue assistance to 50,000 refugees through GFD, ensuring at the same time targeted nutrition support for children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and nurturing women to prevent and cure malnutrition. WFP will also provide emergency school feeding to children in pre-primary and primary schools in the camps.

Starting April 2016, WFP aims to distribute a mix of in-kind — cash/vouchers rations to refugees.

**Niger**

While the humanitarian situation for Malian refugees in Niger appears to have stabilized, several assessments, are ongoing and planned to evaluate their current situation in the country. WFP will continue its assistance to some 54,000 refugees for four additional months through GFD, vouchers and enhanced nutrition support as WFP works with its partners and the government to adjust its strategy following the results of assessments planned for early 2016.

**UN Humanitarian Air Service**

WFP has also been providing safe, reliable, and efficient air transport services to the humanitarian community through country-specific Special Operations in Mali, Mauritania and Niger, allowing responders to provide assistance to affected populations in remote and insecure areas. Overall, in 2015 UNHAS transported 28,500 passengers in the three countries.

To continue the provision of this essential service, WFP requires additional USD 16 million in 2016.

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### Resourcing Situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Immediate shortfall (Jan—Jun 2016)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mali PRRO</td>
<td>USD 29.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso PRRO</td>
<td>USD 13.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania PRRO</td>
<td>USD 15 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger PRRO</td>
<td>USD 162.2 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Sources: WFP, UNGWG, GAUL, GLCSC, OCHA, UNHCR, CH (Nov 2015).*