

Standard Project Report 2015

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

MALI

Saving Lives, Reducing Malnutrition and Rebuilding Livelihoods

Project Number	200719
Project Category	Single Country PRRO
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	2,610,790
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	1,160,568
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	960,549

Project Approval Date	11 Nov 2014
Planned Start Date	01 Jan 2015
Actual Start Date	01 Jan 2015
Project End Date	31 Dec 2017
Financial Closure Date	n.a.

Approved budget as 31 December 2015 in USD	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	10,155,619
Cash--based Transfer and Related Costs	44,246,845
Direct Support Costs	55,050,046
Food and Related Costs	194,837,015
Indirect Support Costs	21,300,267
Total Approved Budget	325,589,793

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Total Approved Commodities	150,856
Planned Commodities in 2015	58,633
Actual Commodities in 2015	42,353

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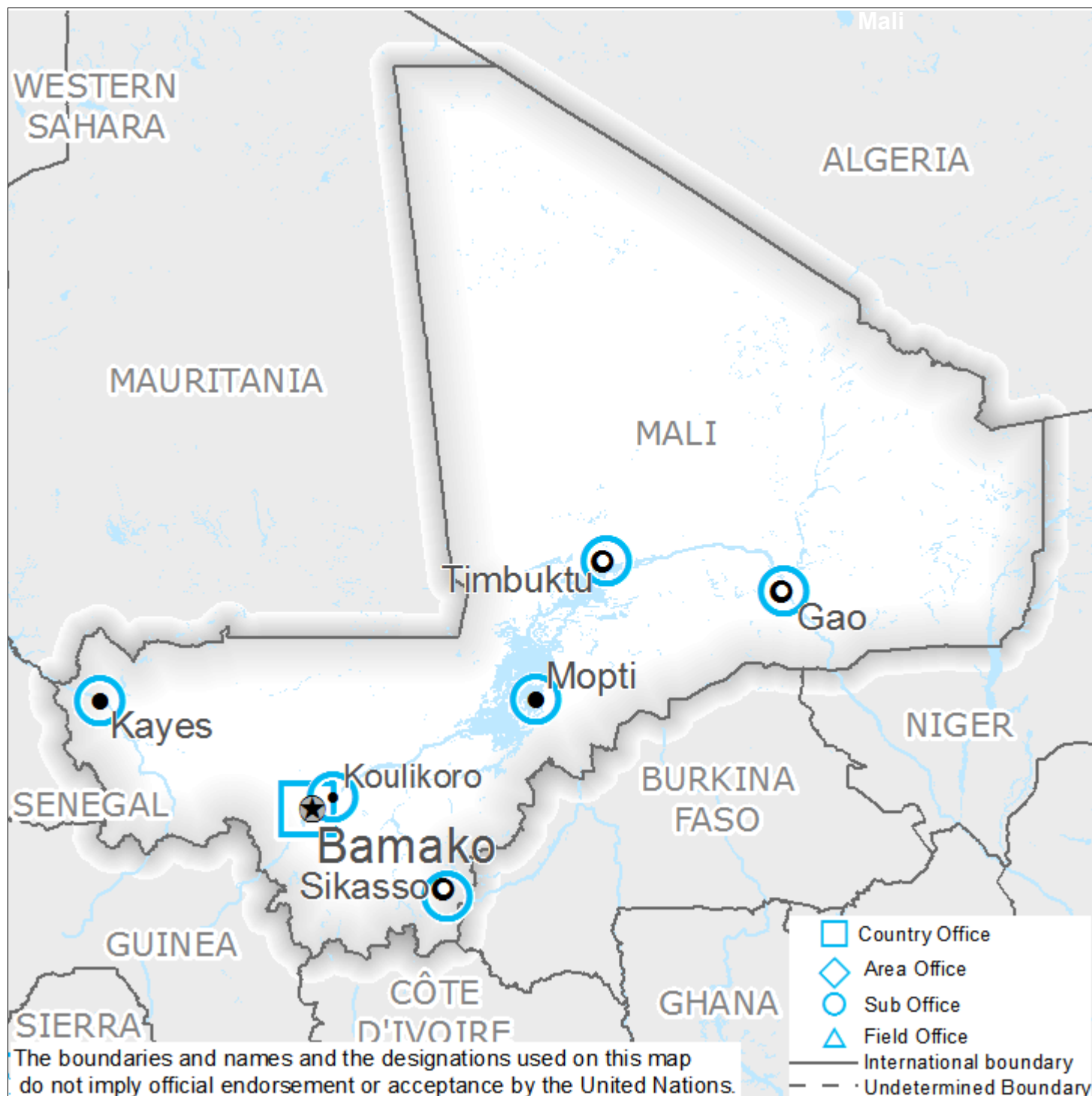
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Country Overview



COUNTRY BACKGROUND

Mali is one of the least developed countries in the world, ranking 179 out of 188 on UNDP's 2015 Human Development Index and on UNDP's Gender Inequality Index. Over half of the population lives on less than USD 1.25 per day and only 7.7 percent of adult women have reached a secondary level of education compared to 15.1 percent of men. Life expectancy is 55 years and the mortality rate for children under 5 is 176 per 1,000.

Since the political coup in March 2012, northern Mali has been occupied by non- state armed groups which resulted in large scale population displacement across the region. Even though many of the internally displaced people have returned to the north of the country, some 138,695 refugees are still in camps in Mauritania, Niger and Burkina Faso. Violence has continued to increase, despite the presence of a United Nations Peacekeeping Mission (MINSUMA) and the signing of the Algiers Peace Accords in June 2015 between the Malian government and armed forces. Specifically, the humanitarian community is being targeted and roads in the north are laden with IEDs and other explosives making it increasingly difficult for humanitarian actors to access beneficiaries.

Due to recent climate shocks, the protracted political crisis, conflict, displacement and the deteriorating security situation approximately 24 percent of the population is chronically food insecure. Chronic poverty and high levels of food insecurity increase the number of people who do not have the means to buy food. Regions in northern Mali are particularly fragile, especially Timbuktu and Gao. Consequently, more than 690,000 people were reliant on food assistance from the government, WFP and the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) during the 2015 lean season from June to October.

Malnutrition is a chronic problem that was exacerbated by the crisis. The Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates are above the World Health Organization's alert threshold of 10 percent with Timbuktu having the highest rate at 17.5 percent. Additionally, results from the May 2015 SMART (Standardized Monitoring Assessment of Relief and Transitions) survey show that 30 percent of children under the age of 5 suffer from chronic malnutrition.

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

In 2015, WFP assisted vulnerable households suffering from seasonal shocks, economic stress and conflict, as well as vulnerable internally displaced persons, returnees and host communities in conflict-affected areas through food, nutrition, safety nets and resilience building interventions. In response to existing food and nutrition challenges and in pursuit of WFP's objectives to save lives, reduce malnutrition, and rebuild livelihoods, WFP implemented two main operations in 2015: the Country Programme (CP) and the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations (PRRO.) WFP's assistance in Mali contributed to WFP Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 4, to meeting the Zero Hunger Challenge and to achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDG) 1,2,3,4,5 and 6. WFP is also working with the government to strengthen their food security institutions and to support them in the analysis of a food security and nutrition.

Specifically, the Country Programme aims to tackle chronic malnutrition through an innovative SNACK (Sante et Nutrition a assise communautaire a Kayes) project, a community based approach to nutritional health in the Kayes region that addresses the critical 1,000 days. The Country Programme also aims to develop rural communities' by building their resistance to climate shocks and improving their agricultural capacities. The PRRO is a transition programme from the Emergency Operations (EMOP), implemented between 2013-2014. With reduced General Food Distribution (GFD) and more emphasis on building technical capacities and resilience to shocks, the PRRO includes GFD mainly in the lean season, nutritional activities, school feeding and resilience activities.

WFP in Mali has also reinforced livelihoods for agricultural communities and contributed to reducing rural poverty through the pilot the Purchase for Progress (P4P) project. Notably, P4P purchases were made directly from farmer's organizations, two of which were composed entirely of females, providing smallholders with an assured market thereby encouraging them to increase production. In line with the government's request, WFP locally purchased and used a total of 34,250mt of cereals and cow peas. WFP also plays a critical role within the humanitarian community in Mali by co-leading the food security cluster with FAO and by managing The United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) that provides humanitarian actors access to northern Mali. WFP led the Technical and Financial Partners' sub group on food security until the end of 2015.

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	109,751	115,594	225,345
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	81,735	88,044	169,779
Number of adults	344,576	372,899	717,475
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	536,062	576,537	1,112,599
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	869,219	1,008,955	1,878,174
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	939,155	844,804	1,783,959

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	24,461	2,672	5,853	9,042	324	42,353
Country Programme	2,569	132	521	242	30	3,493
Total food distributed in 2015	27,030	2,804	6,374	9,284	353	45,845
Total food distributed in 2014	61,079	5,657	13,532	16,457	904	97,629
Total food distributed in 2013	56,616	4,498	13,081	15,950	554	90,699

Operational SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND RELEVANCE

This protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO 200719) aims to save lives, promote stability and contribute to achieving Zero Hunger. It is a transition project from the Emergency Operation (EMOP) implemented between 2013-2014 that supports the governments' Cadre Strategique pour la Croissance et la Reduction de la Pauvrete, Strategie Nationale de Securite Alimentaire and Plan d'Action Multisectorial de Politique Nationale de Nutrition (2013-2021).

The PRRO contributes to WFP's Strategic Plan (2014-2017) by:

- Responding to immediate food and security and nutrition needs of IDPs and returnees and protecting people affected by disasters and seasonal stress (Strategic Objective 1);
- Supporting the recovery and stability of communities affected by shocks (Strategic Objective 2);
- Treating moderately malnourished children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women (Strategic Objective 4); and
- Providing a safety net for vulnerable primary schoolchildren (Strategic Objective 4).

Activities for this project are in line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2015-2019) and Millennium Development Goals 1 and 4. In particular, WFP is providing GFD and cash and vouchers to communities in northern Mali primarily during the lean season; building resilience to climate shocks through asset creation activities; treating children aged 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and malnourished pregnant and lactating women (PLW) through treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and providing fortified food for children through a midday school meal. The project is also building the government's capacity by strengthening their ability to manage food security, nutrition and the school feeding programme.

RESULTS

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Distribution

In 2015 the PRRO targeted vulnerable households affected by the conflict in Mali, including internally displaced people (IDPs), host families and vulnerable communities with high food insecurity and malnutrition rates in addition to primary school children, pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children aged 6-59 months. The primary challenge for beneficiary targeting was lack of access to the northern regions due to insecurity.

According to the March 2015 Cadre Harmonise, the national food security level improved from 1.92 million people being severely food insecure to 450,000 people in 2015 which allowed WFP to scale down its food assistance and to follow a longer term/recovery approach with a focus on resilience activities. Populations that were food insecure, therefore, received cereals, pulses, oil and salt through general food distribution (GFD). Although pipeline constraints and a lack of available commodities prevented WFP from distributing full rations at various points during the year (June and September), strong donor support allowed WFP to deliver the full 2,100 kcals ration size during other months of the lean season.

Cash based transfers (CBT) were distributed to IDPs in the Gao and Timbuktu regions, with the amount transferred equivalent to the price of a food basket on the market. Thereby, 68,013 GFD beneficiaries received assistance through voucher modalities in 2015. Though reduced or low levels of funding for CBT prevented WFP from reaching the planned beneficiaries, this modality was adopted to enable beneficiaries who have easy access to markets to buy food there. In addition, WFP shifted to vouchers and piloted mobile shops since they are more secure than in-kind GFD.

WFP also implemented projects to prevention acute malnutrition that targeted children aged 6-23 months and PLW in Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal and Mopti region. Specifically, the programmes aimed to prevent acute malnutrition provided children aged 6-23 months with a daily ration of Super Cereal Plus while PLW received Super Cereal and oil: both received this ration for 6 months in Timbuktu and 3 months in the other regions. Children identified as acutely malnourished through Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screenings carried out during prevention of acute malnutrition distributions were referred to health centers to receive treatment. The difference in actual versus planned beneficiaries for prevention of acute malnutrition was attributed to insecurity, preventing WFP from implementing these programmes in all planned areas in addition to scaling them down to 3 rations in every region except Timbuktu that received 6 rations. High GAM rates in Timbuktu led to an increased intervention there. Notably, there was a 20 percent overlap between beneficiaries of prevention of acute malnutrition activities and GFD activities and a small overlap between GFD and school feeding because the activities were implemented in the same area in northern Mali.

In 2015, the number of beneficiaries for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition exceeded planned rates in order to respond to the spike in MAM rates in Timbuktu and Sikasso that were shown in the 2015 SMART nutrition survey. With high MAM rates, there was high screening coverage. In addition, WFP saw an increase in the admissions of malnourished children in health centers because WFP and its partners effectively relayed community sensitization campaigns in communities related to the treatment of malnutrition. By respecting the discharge criteria, WFP was able to increase its coverage.

Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) projects targeting food insecure host populations were designed to improve access to livelihood assets and basic services, including community, social and market infrastructures. Beneficiaries were selected by the communities based on vulnerability criteria (e.g the elderly, female headed households, unemployment, number of dependents in the household) set by the communities and adopted under the control of partners. However, due to a lack of and late funding, only 20 percent of planned beneficiaries received the planned amount of transfer value for FFA, which used food and cash transfers. The choice of modality was based on the season- food was provided during the lean season and cash transfers were provided during the post-harvest season.

WFP also implemented the school feeding programme in coordination with the Centre National des Cantines Scolaires in Mopti, Gao, Timbuktu, Kayes, Koulikoro, Segou and Sikasso. School meals were provided to primary school children aged 7 to 12 years in areas where food insecurity and/or the prevalence of acute malnutrition were high, and school enrolment was the lowest. A daily hot lunch of cereals, pulses and vegetable oil was offered. Schools' cooks received five daily rations for their families, which included children under 5. The discrepancies in the planned and achieved beneficiaries resulted from the continuous insecurity in the north and the lack of funding, which meant priorities were given to schools that had a kitchen, a warehouse or a school management committee. All schools in the region of Kidal remained closed due to the presence of armed groups and the absence of school administrators.

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number of adults	367,668	375,096	742,764	309,978	313,523	623,501	84.3%	83.6%	83.9%
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	91,917	93,773	185,690	73,770	79,918	153,688	80.3%	85.2%	82.8%
Number of children below 5 years of age	114,896	117,218	232,114	89,226	94,134	183,360	77.7%	80.3%	79.0%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	574,481	586,087	1,160,568	472,974	487,575	960,549	82.3%	83.2%	82.8%
The total number of beneficiaries includes all targeted persons who were provided with WFP food during the reporting period - either as a recipient/participant in one or more of the following groups, or from a household food ration distributed to one of these recipients/participants									

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Internally Displaced Persons	34,402	35,098	69,500	21,744	23,153	44,897	63.2%	66.0%	64.6%
Children receiving take-home rations		91,199	91,199		74,718	74,718		81.9%	81.9%
Participants in Food For Training	1,072	459	1,531	1,072	459	1,531	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Participants in Food For Assets	94,050	95,950	190,000	23,413	16,955	40,368	24.9%	17.7%	21.2%
Pregnant and lactating women participating in blanket supplementary feeding (prevention of moderate acute malnutrition)		44,089	44,089		34,121	34,121		77.4%	77.4%
Beneficiaries of General food distribution (GFD)/ targeted food distribution/assistance (GFD-TFD/A)	217,454	221,846	439,300	169,856	176,788	346,644	78.1%	79.7%	78.9%
Children receiving school meals	110,498	112,731	223,229	81,595	88,394	169,989	73.8%	78.4%	76.2%
Children 24 to 59 months given food under supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate malnutrition)	27,419	28,539	55,958	32,205	32,205	64,410	117.5%	112.8%	115.1%
Children 6 to 23 months given food under blanket supplementary feeding (prevention of acute malnutrition)	44,342	45,238	89,580	32,761	31,477	64,238	73.9%	69.6%	71.7%
Children 6 to 23 months given food under supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate malnutrition)	86,456	81,419	167,875	105,872	104,461	210,333	122.5%	128.3%	125.3%
Pregnant and lactating women participating in targeted supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate acute malnutrition)		42,730	42,730		74,125	74,125		173.5%	173.5%
Returnees	20,790	21,210	42,000	13,880	13,252	27,132	66.8%	62.5%	64.6%
Cash-Based Transfer Beneficiaries	142,214	145,086	287,300	54,699	53,682	108,381	38.5%	37.0%	37.7%

Commodity Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Beans	2,523	615	24.4%
Corn-soya Blend (csb)	8,574	8,095	94.4%
Iodised Salt	442	324	73.2%
Peas		5	
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	1,252	948	75.7%
Rice	7,062	4,521	64.0%
Sorghum/millet	28,246	19,921	70.5%
Split Peas	5,045	5,233	103.7%
Vegetable Oil	5,489	2,672	48.7%
Wheat		19	
Total for 2015	58,633	42,353	72.2%

	Planned Distribution (USD)	Actual Distribution (USD)	% Actual v. Planned
Cash-Based Transfer			
Cash	12,288,333.33	416,687	3.4%
Vouchers		2,314,338.28	
Total for 2015	12,288,333.33	2,731,024.94	22.2%

'Story Worth Telling'

In 2009, after Amadou Salif Taliby from the village of Banidagara in the region of Mopti tried a WFP provided school meal, he wanted to go to school. He said the meal was delicious and more nutritious than what he could find at home, especially because his village is particularly vulnerable to food insecurities since only ten percent of the land is cultivable. The school feeding programme also helped convince Amadou's father to send him to school even though he originally wanted him to stay home and work on the fields, thereby acting as a protection mechanism that limits child labor.

Today, Amadou has the highest grades in his 7th grade class. His teachers say that he is a serious and dedicated student that never misses school. Amadou admits that the first WFP school meal he tried served as a catalyst for his love and level of dedication to school.

Amadou's story is not unique to the village of Bandiagara. According to the principal, school enrolment has increased 36 percent since the inception of the WFP school feeding programme in 2013. These meals have become the backbone of the school: members of the community admit that "without the WFP meals there is no school."

Progress Towards Gender Equality

Under the PRRO, gender concerns have been mainstreamed into all WFP activities with emphasis on the reinforcement of women's participation in the implementation and management of activities. Data on WFP beneficiaries and activities is disaggregated by sex and age in order to assess the impact of WFP interventions on different groups. Gender criteria have been integrated into the process concerning the selection and evaluation of cooperating partners to ensure that partners are attentive to gender concerns in their operations and work towards gender balance amongst their staff. WFP staff members moreover actively participated in inter-agency sensitization campaigns, such as the He for She campaign and the UNiTE campaign against gender-based violence.

Ration cards for General Food Distributions and cash and vouchers for food entitlements were mostly issued to female household members as decisions on the utilization of food or cash were more likely to be made by women or shared between men and women, when entitlements were given directly to female household members. Approximately 70 percent of vouchers were distributed to female beneficiaries. The majority of volunteer school cooks involved in school feeding activities were women. School cooks received a daily food ration in return for their work, thereby contributing to their food security. In an effort to address the gender gap that continues to persist in schools, Take Home Rations of vegetable oil were distributed to all school girls in WFP-supported schools at the beginning of the school year 2015-2016 in order to incentivize parents to send their girls to school.

To prevent malnutrition amongst girls and boys in vulnerable areas with high food insecurity, ready-to-use products were given to children between 6 to 23 months, which do not contribute to the workload of caregivers. In addition hereto, nutrition activities targeted pregnant and nursing women to prevent malnutrition and improve their nutritional status. Information about good nutrition and child care practices were disseminated at community level, targeting both women and men.

Under the resilience component, attention was given to the development of assets and activities that were sensitive to men and women's different needs and vulnerabilities and would be accessible to all community members with special emphasis placed on the needs of women. Gender concerns were thus incorporated in Seasonal Livelihoods Programming (SLP) that were carried out in Timbuktu and Gao region and Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) exercises in Koulikoro region. Supporting the economic empowerment of women is furthermore a key objective under the P4P project, which specifically targets female smallholder producers for approximately 46 percent of the Farmers Organizations (FO) supported are composed uniquely of women.

According to data collected, women's decision-making power over the utilization of food entitlements at the household level increased significantly during 2015 with a higher percentage of women deciding on how food entitlements should be used and an increase in joint decision-making between male and female household members. Despite active promotion to reinforce the participation of women in project management committees, women only occupied 36 percent of leadership positions and women's involvement in decision-making over assets and resources at committee and community level remains limited due to persisting social barriers, especially in northern regions. In 2016, WFP will further emphasize and support the inclusion of women in committees and project activities to promote gender equity.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
	Target Val	(at start of project or benchmark)	(penultimate follow-up)	(latest value measured)
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	40	22.4	30	41.5
Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	30	23.9	28	28.3
Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	30	53.7	42	30.2
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
Base value: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	50	34	36	36
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
Base value: Jan-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	60	20	30	50

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

The security situation remained volatile throughout 2015, marked by frequent attacks against civilians, peacekeeping forces and humanitarian actors, as well as temporary population displacements particularly in the regions of Gao, Timbuktu and Mopti. Mitigating measures were taken to enable the continuity of food supplies activities and ensure the safety, dignity and integrity of beneficiaries in line with the "do no harm" principle. In 2015, WFP specifically sought to strengthen and improve its communication and information sharing with beneficiaries and partnered with cooperating partners and local community leaders to ensure that beneficiaries were kept informed of the timing and location of food distributions ahead of planned food distributions. Distribution sites were defined in collaboration with community leaders and beneficiaries. For protection purposes, distribution sites were set up in villages or in close vicinity of populated areas in order to minimize travel distance and time, which could put beneficiaries at risk, and closed off ahead of food distributions. Shelter was provided to ensure that beneficiaries, particularly women, the elderly and children, were protected from sun and rain. To strengthen transparency and accountability towards WFP beneficiaries, complaints mechanisms were set up through the establishment of complaints committees or free hotlines to enable beneficiaries to raise issues related to food distributions. In 2015, WFP placed an emphasis on the promotion of food vouchers as vouchers minimize risks associated with transport and can easily be distributed, provided that markets are functional.

Nutrition activities were carried out in all functional community health centers to ensure access to malnutrition treatment for vulnerable populations. Mobile nutrition teams were used to reach nomadic communities in Gao and Timbuktu region, where malnutrition treatment was carried out on site, as nomadic communities often are not able to access established services and thus face additional risks. School feeding activities were carried out in primary schools in northern and central regions as well as selected areas in Koulikoro and Kayes region that were not covered by other school feeding partners in order to provide a safe environment and safety net for children in areas at risk. According to results obtained, school meals provided a definite incentive for parents to send their children to school, thus simultaneously acting as a protection mechanism that curbs child labour and supports school children's food security. WFP and its partners are furthermore looking into options to support the reopening of schools as schools in the Kidal region, which have been closed since the onset of the conflict.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	80	75	84.5	86
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	80	75	85	87
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	90	97	98	99
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	90	97	97.5	98.5
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	80	75	84	85
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites				
Base value: Dec-2014, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Third Party Monitoring (TPM), Programme monitoring.	90	97	97	98

Outputs

In order to prevent acute malnutrition during the lean season, carrying households through the most difficult period of the year, WFP Mali distributed household rations through GFD and implemented prevention of acute malnutrition programmes - reaching 98,359 beneficiaries in 2015. Although funding constraints forced WFP to scale back distributions from four months to three that aimed to prevent acute malnutrition in Gao, Kidal and Mopti, WFP scaled up its intervention to six months in Timbuktu in 2015 in order to respond to results from the SMART survey that showed alarming malnutrition rates in the region.

In addition, more than 90 percent of GFD beneficiaries were satisfied with the quality of cereals, vegetables, oil and salt they received in 2015. According to post-distribution monitoring reports, 82 percent of GFD in 2015 was in line with the planned distribution schedule.

Due to pipeline constraints and lack of available commodities, GFD rations of cereals, pulses and Super Cereal were reduced in June and September.

Although WFP had planned to treat malnutrition in every health center in the country, insufficient funding forced WFP to discontinue assistance in health centers starting in May 2015 with less than 30 patients per month and focus its assistance in areas in northern Mali with high GAM rates and in Sikasso and Mopti where WFP partnered with UNICEF. Though coverage decreased, the number of beneficiaries treated increased because the GAM rates have increased since the inception of this project and because WFP supported government screening campaigns. In addition, WFP was able to assist close to double the number of PLW because the duration of treatment was around 90 days instead of the originally planned 180 days.

Since the voucher transfer programme was successfully implemented in Gao in 2014, WFP decided to expand the project in 2015 by implementing it in Timbuktu in addition to Gao. This enabled beneficiaries to purchase food commodities with participating retailers. The value of the voucher transfer was based on the cost of a typical household food basket and the average market value of WFP's in-kind food ration over the past two years.

According to the post-distribution monitoring (PDM) conducted for the cash based transfer programme, 81.9 percent of families used their vouchers to buy food. However, 15.9 percent of beneficiaries resold or exchanged their vouchers to buy clothes.

In order to determine the extent to which local food markets experienced seasonal price fluctuations and/or abnormally high food price levels, WFP continuously monitored local food prices. Cash-based programming, thereby, adjusted transfer values when a predetermined price threshold was exceeded. Alternatively, WFP substituted a given transfer modality when deemed necessary. Products authorized for voucher transactions were aligned with the GFD food basket ration and included cereals, pulses, oil and salt. As shown in the PDM, women maintained a large control on the food redeemed through vouchers.

Since Food Assistance for Asset (FFA) activities helped rehabilitate household and community assets in key areas, they improved access to food. Community-based projects with the aim to manage water resources resulted in increased agricultural production and reduced disaster risks. Dams were one of the principal assets used to retain water after the rainy season, to enable increased vegetable cultivation, and ponds contributed to household incomes and increased dietary diversity. All beneficiaries of FFA activities received a combination of CBT and food. Though WFP did not construct all of the activities planned because of low levels of funding, FFA activities provided a link to the early recovery efforts of WFP's partners. Additionally, partners ensured that assets created were aligned with technical standards adopted by WFP and technical service of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The number of school children and voluntary cooks assisted under the school feeding programme gradually increased in 2015. Boys and girls enrolled in school received an equal amount of school meals. The Take Home Ration, however was only distributed to girls in November 2015 because of lack of resources and because hot meals were prioritized. Continued insecurity and an absence of school administrations in the Kidal region resulted in the majority of its schools remaining closed.

A large share of the food purchased for the PRRO was bought from smallholder farmers: the increase in locally purchased food from 2014 was the result of purchasing food directly from small farmholders (FO). In 2015, 33 percent of the food was purchased from FO: 17 of which are directly supported by WFP through the P4P project. In addition, WFP Mali tested a new method for purchasing local food in 2015 by working with local merchants and 98 smallholder farmers who are supported by the Cereals Value Chain (CVC) project. This has enabled WFP to expand on its local purchases, its support of local producers and its synergies with other partners.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO 1: GFD				
C&V: Total monetary value of cash vouchers distributed	US\$	7,380,000	2,314,338	31.4%
Energy content of food distributed (kcal/person/day)	kcal/person/day	2,100	2,100	100.0%
Number of timely food distributions as per planned distribution schedule	distribution	12	10	83.3%
SO 1: Local Purchase				
Food purchased from local farmer groups or cooperatives, as percentage of total food purchased locally	%	20	35	175.0%
Food purchased locally, as percentage of total food purchased	%	50	57	114.0%
Monetary value of food commodities purchased locally by WFP (US\$)	US\$	11,452,282	11,452,282	100.0%
Number of farmer groups supported through local purchases	farmer group	17	17	100.0%
Number of FOs trained in market access and post-harvest handling skills	farmer organization	17	17	100.0%
Number of smallholder farmers supported by WFP	Individual	20,000	16,798	84.0%
Quantity of food purchased locally from pro-smallholder aggregation systems (expressed in MT)	mt	10,000	8,886	88.9%
Quantity of food purchased locally through Local and Regional purchases (expressed in MT)	mt	30,000	25,634	85.4%
SO 1: Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition				
Energy content of food distributed (kcal/person/day)	kcal/person/day	788	788	100.0%
Number of children under-2 who received micronutrient powders	Individual	89,580	64,238	71.7%
Number of feeding days	day	120	90	75.0%
Number of pregnant/lactating women assisted	Individual	44,089	34,121	77.4%
SO 2: FFA				
C&V: Number of beneficiaries receiving a combination of cash transfers and food	Individual	190,000	38,838	20.4%
C&V: Total amount of cash transferred to beneficiaries	US\$	4,908,333	437,735	8.9%
Hectares (ha) of agricultural land benefiting from rehabilitated irrigation schemes (including irrigation canal repair, specific protection measures, embankments, etc)	Ha	139	144	103.6%
Hectares (ha) of cultivated land treated with biological stabilization or agro forestry techniques only (including multi-storey gardening, green fences, and various tree belts)	Ha	102	100	98.0%
Hectares (ha) of degraded hillsides and marginal areas rehabilitated with physical and biological soil and water conservation measures, planted with trees and protected (e.g. closure, etc)	Ha	7	7	100.0%
Kilometres (km) of feeder roads rehabilitated (FFA) and maintained (self-help)	km	11	11	100.0%
Number of community members trained in asset management and sustainability	individual	1,531	1,531	100.0%
Number of fish ponds constructed (FFA) and maintained (self-help)	fish pond	6	2	33.3%
Number of shallow wells constructed	shallow well	46	30	65.2%

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO 2: FFT				
Number of participants in beneficiary training sessions (livelihood-support/agriculture&farming/IGA)	Individual	1,531	1,531	100.0%
SO 4: Capacity Development: Strengthening National Capacities				
Number of food security and nutrition monitoring/surveillance reports produced with WFP support	report	3	3	100.0%
Number of government counterparts trained in data collection and analysis on food and nutrition security	individual	20	20	100.0%
SO 4: Nutrition: Treatment of Acute Malnutrition				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	1,222	1,222	100.0%
Number of pregnant/lactating women assisted	Individual	42,730	74,125	173.5%
Proportion of women receiving nutrition counseling supported by WFP against proportion planned	%	100	100	100.0%
SO 4: School Feeding				
Number of cooks assisted by WFP	Individual	15,945	9,019	56.6%
Number of months THRs were distributed	month	3	1	33.3%
Number of primary school children assisted by WFP	Individual	223,229	169,989	76.2%
Number of schools assisted by WFP	school	1,300	974	74.9%

Outcomes

The PRRO nutrition activities contributed to achieving WFP Strategic Objective 1 and 4. The global acute malnutrition rate among children under 5 are stabilized, but remained serious since the national prevalence was at 12.4 percent in 2015. WFP's increased collaboration with the government in nutrition activities and its effective nutrition response through programmes aimed to prevent acute malnutrition during the lean season and assistance in centers that treated moderate acute malnutrition resulted in improved Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) performance indicators, a higher coverage rate and satisfactory participation in prevention of acute malnutrition activities.

Results from post-distribution monitoring (PDM) and surveys confirmed the effectiveness of WFP programming. PDM found that the proportion of children aged 6-23 months who participate in an adequate number of distribution significantly increased from 71.6 percent in 2014 to 92.5 percent in 2015. The coverage rate for the prevention of acute malnutrition programme also had strong growth in 2015 compared to 2014: increasing from 10.3 percent to 29 percent.

Furthermore, the performance of centers that treated moderate acute malnutrition met the minimum SPHERE standards for their management of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Notably, the MAM treatment recovery rate was around 87 percent and above the target value of 75 percent while MAM treatment mortality, non-response and default rates considerably decreased and were well below the recommended minimum threshold.

Despite these efforts and positive results, the nutritional situation remains serious with regional disparities in particular in Timbuktu where the GAM rate spiked to 17.5 percent in 2015 thereby surpassing the WHO critical threshold of 15 percent. WFP will continue to pay particular attention to these programs to bring GAM rates below the acceptable threshold.

In addition, the overall humanitarian food assistance delivered in 2014 and 2015 by the Government, WFP and the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) contributed to improving the food security situation (there are other factors that also contributed such as good rainfalls).

However, food insecurity rates for households in northern Mali remain much higher than the national average: according to the 2015 National Food Security and Nutritional Survey (ENSAN), 26 percent of the population are moderately food insecure and 5.25 percent are severely food insecure as compared to the four percent national average, making households in northern Mali still heavily dependent on food assistance.

The deteriorating Food Consumption Score (FCS) among WFP beneficiaries is likely due to an increase in vulnerability throughout 2015, especially since there was a poor pastoralist season jeopardizing northern population's livelihoods (northern population main livelihood depend on livestock).

To strengthen their resilience and ensure their FCS is acceptable, the objectives of the country office as mentioned in the approved PRRO project document will be to increase cash based transfers for 2016 and 2017 as well as Food Assistance for Asset activities that combine cash and food based transfers.

The post distribution monitoring for GFD showed that households headed by women were more food insecure than those headed by males in 2015. Therefore, WFP's GFD beneficiary cards were principally issued under the name of the female who came to acquire the food rations. In particular, 82 percent of Cash Based Transfer cards were under a females' name.

It is also evident that WFP's school feeding programme increased attendance rates and decreased overall dropout rates in Mali. Accordingly, 96 percent of students and 97 percent of the girls enrolled in schools that receive WFP assistance completed the school year. In addition, Mali's 2015 school enrolment rate increased by two points.

Although WFP did not begin implementing resilience activities for the PRRO until March 2015, outcomes from 2015 show that the resilience programme targeted villages vulnerable to climate shocks in northern Mali and the assets created for participating households and communities improved their resilience to climate shocks. The Community Asset Score (CAS), one of the indicators used to measure the outcomes of the resilience programme, improved by more than 30 percent.

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Strategic Objective 1: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies				
CSI: Coping Strategy Index (average)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Female-headed households, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Female-headed households, Programme monitoring.	8.3	8.8		10.39
CSI: Coping Strategy Index (average)				

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Households(Male and Female), Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Households (Male and Female), Programme monitoring.	8.3	6.9		7.21
CSI: Coping Strategy Index (average)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Male-headed households, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Male-headed households, Programme monitoring.	8.3	6.5		6.26
Diet Diversity Score				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	5.4	4.4		4.03
Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	5.4	4.2		3.94
Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	5.4	4.4		4.06
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	75	67.9		48
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	75	50.6		43
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	75	71.1		50
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	15	22.4		26
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	15	29.1		23
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	15	21.2		26
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	10	9.7		26
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	10	20.3		34
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report, Programme monitoring.	10	7.7		24
Proportion of children consuming a minimum acceptable diet				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline Study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM, Programme monitoring.	70	10.3		29
Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)				
Base value: Dec-2014, PDM Report/BSFP, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report/BSFP, Programme monitoring.	70	75.6		94.4
Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions				
Base value: Dec-2014, PDM Report/BSFP, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2015, PDM Report/BSFP, Programme monitoring.	66	71.6		92.5
Strategic Objective 2: Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies				
CAS: Community Asset Score (average)				
Base value: May-2015, Cooperating Partners survey report, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Cooperating Partners survey report, Programme monitoring.	20	24		32
Strategic Objective 4: Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger				
Attendance rate (boys) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	85			93.5
Attendance rate (girls) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	85			92.9

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Attendance rate in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	85			93
Enrolment: Average annual rate of change in number of children enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Schools reports, Secondary data, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	6	3		4.2
Enrolment (boys): Average annual rate of change in number of boys enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Schools reports, Secondary data, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	6	2.8		3.6
Enrolment (girls): Average annual rate of change in number of girls enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Schools reports, Secondary data, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	6	3.2		4.9
MAM treatment default rate (%)				
Base value: Jan-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring.	15	18.87	12.84	12.75
MAM treatment mortality rate (%)				
Base value: Jan-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring.	3	0.02	0.02	0
MAM treatment non-response rate (%)				
Base value: Jan-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring.	15	0.11	0.33	0.21
MAM treatment recovery rate (%)				
Base value: Jan-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Nutrition Report, Programme monitoring.	75	81	86.81	87.04
NCI: School Feeding National Capacity Index				
Base value: Sep-2014, SABER Workshop, organized by Ministry of Education and WFP, Programme monitoring.	2	1.8		
Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %)				
Base value: Jul-2014, SMART Report, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: May-2015, SMART Report, Programme monitoring.	10.63	13.3		12.4
Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)				
Base value: Nov-2014, Baseline study, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Desk-based coverage calculation, Programme monitoring.	50	64		51.8
Retention rate (boys) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Secondary data, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	85	94.5		99
Retention rate (girls) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Secondary data, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	85	93.7		96
Retention rate in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Secondary data, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, SF monitoring report, Programme monitoring.	85	94.1		98

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

In line with WFP's commitment to strengthen its partnership and collaboration with the Malian government, WFP put special emphasis on the development of government capacity to assume policy-making and interventions in the realm of food security, nutrition, school feeding and resilience.

In 2015, WFP provided technical and financial assistance to the Systeme d'Alerte Precoce (SAP) and the Commissariat a la Securite Alimentaire (CSA), the government bodies responsible for food security and early warning, to support the implementation of national food security surveys such as the biannual ENSAN and the Cadre Harmonise. In relation hereto, WFP organized training sessions for national stakeholders to reinforce data collection and data analysis and provided technical support to the respective entities throughout the implementation of national food security assessments. In support of the government's food assistance interventions, which are carried out during the lean season together with local NGOs to alleviate food insecurity, WFP partnered with the CSA to provide training to local NGO partners on targeting practices and food distribution modalities. Under the auspices of the Geneva-based Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) - an inter-agency initiative that supports the reinforcement of national government capacity to respond to disaster risk - WFP furthermore supported the implementation of a national review in May 2015 to assess the government's operational and institutional capacity to respond to and anticipate natural disasters.

Under the framework of the MoU signed between WFP and the Ministry of Health in 2015, WFP provided operational and technical support to government health divisions at the central and decentralised level in order to strengthen their capacity to plan, implement and coordinate nutrition responses and develop a national oversight mechanism to manage nutrition interventions. In an effort to boost national expertise on nutrition, WFP launched a new initiative to support access to higher education on nutrition for professionals working in the health care sector and supported the training of health care staff at the local, regional and national level on malnutrition treatment. To support national ownership and the eventual hand-over of WFP's school feeding programme to the government, WFP and the Ministry of Education jointly collaborated on the development of a transition roadmap for the handover of school feeding activities. Following the national "System Assessment and Benchmarking for Education Results" (SABER) that was carried out in 2014 to assess the capacity of government institutions working in the field of education to assume and manage school feeding activities, an action plan for 2015-2017 was endorsed by the government to reinforce national school feeding initiatives. In addition, WFP carried out joint field missions with the Centre National des Cantines Scolaires (CNCS), responsible for the management of school canteens, and provided equipment to boost their operational capacity.

Engagement with government actors and transfer of technical knowledge and skills is a key element of WFP's resilience programme in order to build ownership of assets created and promote sustainability of resilience interventions. Government staff from technical departments at the central, regional and local level were actively involved in the execution of mapping activities to assess seasonal risks, livelihoods and vulnerabilities and in the planning of local resilience activities. A special emphasis was placed on capacity development of government field agents to boost their capacity to oversee activities and provide support to local partners and communities involved in the resilience projects. In an effort to harmonize and standardize approaches to asset creation, WFP and the Ministry of Rural Development jointly developed national guidelines for asset creation that can be applied outside of a WFP context to support the development of national resilience projects and create synergies between interventions.

Under the P4P project, WFP continued the direct purchase of cereals from small-scale producers to support its operations, purchasing a total of 34,250mt in 2015. While WFP's direct purchase has enabled producers to boost their production and strengthen their livelihoods, the capacity building activities that have been carried out under the P4P project have enabled the producers to improve their production techniques and strengthened their knowhow on marketing etc. Spurred by the positive results yielded under the P4P project, a number of consultations were held with government stakeholders during 2015 to discuss the possible expansion of the P4P project.

INPUTS

Resource Inputs

Thanks to early contributions from donors in 2015 for General Food Assistance, WFP was able to assist beneficiaries during the agro-pastoral lean season, preventing rations from being reduced. Notably, resilience activities sparked the interest of various donors. However, funding for resilience did not arrive until after the season for implementation during the January to May period, which prevented WFP from implementing the level of activities originally planned. In response to these constraints and to resolve this issue, WFP and donors engaged in discussions and several multi-year funding proposals were approved which allowed for better programming of resilience activities over the next two years.

PRRO 200719 was funded at 70 percent including multi-year contributions. A total of USD 81.7 million was received for an annual requirement of USD 121 million. Accordingly, 72 percent of the food requirements were financed against 28 percent for cash based transfer and 27 percent for CD&A. In terms of activity, general food distribution was financed at 72 percent, nutrition 74 percent, school feeding 39 percent and resilience 43 percent.

Strong advocacy with donors allowed for timely contributions to arrive on time for all interventions except for resilience. Local purchase of cereals allowed WFP Mali to maximize purchases and improve delivery lead-times. Favorable exchange rates and prices ensured an additional 10 percent on the local cereal purchases.

In terms of activities, nutrition activity was funded at 71 percent so the county office scaled back implementation by reducing the caseload of malnourished children met during the year. School feeding activity was funded at 38.5 percent and was the lowest funding WFP had by activity. WFP therefore had to reduce the total number of schools planned. Resilience activities was funded at 42 percent and implementation was further impacted as funding arrived late in the season preventing WFP from implementing the level of activities planned. In addition, Capacity Development was funded at 27 percent therefore most activities planned to strengthen capacity did not materialize.

Donor	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2015 (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
Canada		6,300	5,828
European Commission		9,101	5,487
France		453	156
Germany		1,421	1,294
Japan		5,237	3,655
Luxembourg		556	556
MULTILATERAL		1,925	595
Switzerland		1,057	1,053
United Arab Emirates		338	0
USA	5,030	6,774	13,113
Total:	5,030	33,161	31,736

See Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors for breakdown by commodity and contribution reference number

Food Purchases and in-kind Receipts

In 2015, local production was supported, including 8,886mt procured from smallholder farmers. The expansion of the Forward Purchase Facility in Mali also allowed WFP to maximize local purchases in the post-harvest period and improve delivery times.

Commodity	Local (mt)	Developing Country (mt)	Other International (mt)	GCMF (mt)
Beans	530	0	0	
Corn Soya Blend	0	0	1,665	2,626
High Energy Biscuits	0	0	0	51
Iodised Salt	0	177	0	
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	0	0	0	1,066
Rice	959	1,551	0	
Sorghum/Millet	10,891	0	0	12,713
Split Peas	0	0	2,277	1,832
Vegetable Oil	0	0	2,420	580
Sum:	12,379	1,728	6,362	18,869

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

The logistical hubs of Bamako and Mopti were supplied principally by the ports of Lome and Dakar. Gao was supplied via Cotonou and food was transported to the Timbuktu region by boats along the Niger river. Regional transporters were contracted for second and tertiary distributions providing enhanced security.

Post-Delivery Losses

The major losses were the result of security problems- two trucks that were stuck in the sand were looted in the Goundam area and a further two trucks were looted on the road to Asongo. Two attacks also took place in a partner's warehouse in the Menaka region.

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships

To support the implementation of WFP activities under the PRRO in central and northern regions of Mali, WFP signed 54 Field Level Agreements in 2015 with both international and national NGOs, including two FLAs with two different NGOs to carry out third-party monitoring and evaluation of WFP activities in Timbuktu, Kidal, Gao and selected districts in Mopti region that remain inaccessible to WFP.

In 2015, a special emphasis was placed on the development of partnerships with the government at the central, regional and local level. MoUs were signed with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Rural Development as well as the Ministry of Education to reinforce collaboration around the implementation and management of WFP-supported activities. WFP continued to work closely with the 'Système d'Alerte Précoce' (SAP), which is responsible for the implementation of national food security and risk surveys, as well as the Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire (CSA) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to coordinate the distribution of lean season food assistance to vulnerable households and harmonise targeting. Under the auspices of the platform for technical and financial partners (PTF) in Mali, WFP also chaired the working group on 'Food Security and Nutrition', which has been instrumental in driving the reform of the National Food Security Framework under the CSA and pushing for the development of a national food security policy, which is currently being drafted.

The strengthening of partnerships with UN agencies was another priority for WFP in order to increase synergies between UN responses and promote joint planning. In 2015, WFP developed a joint resilience project with FAO, which is currently being implemented in Timbuktu and Gao region and is funded by the European Union. Together with FAO, WFP continued to co-lead the Food Security Cluster, which plays a critical role in the coordination of emergency food security assistance and the implementation of national food security surveys between UN agencies, NGOs and government partners. Additionally, WFP initiated and co-led a new inter-agency working group on emergency preparedness and response together with OCHA and actively participated in different inter-agency structures on gender, protection, nutrition and education. WFP furthermore continued to co-lead the Cash Working Group together with Oxfam.

To the extent possible, WFP has sought to promote the development of complementary partnerships. WFP thus partnered with the Cereals Value Chain project led by USAID, which enabled WFP to expand the purchase of cereals produced by local small-scale farmers. Within the framework of cash-based interventions, WFP continued its partnership with the Common Framework for Safety Nets (Cadre Commun de Filets Sociaux) - a joint project led by five international NGOs which aims at strengthening the livelihoods of vulnerable communities in Gao and Timbuktu through cash-based transfers - and distributed complementary food assistance to the communities involved in the project. In order to enhance WFP's cash-based distribution modalities, WFP implemented a pilot project in partnership with ACF in Gao and Timbuktu to test the viability of electronic vouchers to support food insecure households, and new partnerships were developed with local retailers in areas of Timbuktu and Gao region to ensure access to vulnerable beneficiaries in areas, where security risks are high. Under the resilience programme, a close partnership has been forged with technical government services at the central and regional level to develop national guidelines on resilience and asset creation and to ensure government implication in the planning of WFP's resilience activities.

To boost local ownership of resilience-building activities, WFP prioritized the development of partnerships with national NGOs as they have an in-depth understanding of the local context and have close linkages to local communities. This has proven beneficial in the process of identifying and constructing appropriate assets at the local level and ensuring cost-effective implementation. Both nutrition and schoolfeeding activities were implemented in close partnership with central and regional government departments under the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education respectively, which are involved in the planning and oversight of activities. A new research partnership was formed with the national institute for public health research to measure the prevalence of anemia and undernutrition amongst school going children. Under the auspices of the REACH programme, WFP furthermore continued to push for improved government planning of nutrition interventions in partnership with UNICEF, FAO and WHO.

Partnerships	NGO		Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	UN/IO
	National	International		
Total	26	18		4

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
	Target Val	(at start of project or benchmark)	(penultimate follow-up)	(latest value measured)
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, INGOs, Civil Society, Private Sector organizations, International Financial Institutions, Regional development banks)				
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, FLA, Programme monitoring.	2,200,000			2,200,000
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services				
Base value: Dec-2014, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Field Level Agreement (FLA), Programme monitoring.	40	40		44
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners				
Base value: Dec-2014, FLA, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, FLA, Programme monitoring.	100	100		100

Lessons Learned

The 2014 EMOP evaluation highlighted the need to mitigate security risks while preserving humanitarian space. Given the volatile context in northern Mali, WFP must remain responsive in revising programmatic objectives while maintaining WFP's larger strategic aims. Following this recommendation, WFP decided to move from food distributions to cash based interventions in highly insecure areas where the looting of food represents a considerable risk. Also, in order to monitor and adjust activities in areas where WFP does not have access, thanks to third party monitoring that was continued following its successes from previous years.

The positive outputs from the first cash based transfers in 2014 encouraged WFP to scale up the use of this modality in 2015. Electronic vouchers, in addition to paper vouchers are now used and should be extended in 2016.

Advocacy for early contributions from donors helped WFP plan and effectively implement General Food Distributions (GFD) in 2015 without major pipeline breaks. Most contributions for resilience activities, however, arrived too late to implement activities during the appropriate season. WFP should advocate for multiyear contributions allowing for better planning of resilience activities.

Coordination between the key GFD actors, the CSA (Commissariat a la Securite Alimentaire), ICRC and WFP through the National Response Plan enabled those actors to reach the high number of food insecure people. WFP reached the most food insecure households with a full ration of 2100 Kcal and the CSA provided cereal distributions to other vulnerable groups.

In 2014, the nutrition strategy prepared with the support of the Regional Bureau recommended that WFP takes measures to strengthen cooperating partners' capacities. In 2015, results of the programmes aimed to prevent acute malnutrition improved thanks to a WFP managed workshop held in May that strengthened the capacities of cooperating partners. Further, practices were standardized and partner involvement in the prevention of acute malnutrition increased.

The use of technology also improved project implementation costs. In collaboration with UNICEF and the government, WFP introduced the use of SMS to collect data for nutrition activities in the Mopti region. This increased the speed and improved the quality of reports on nutrition activities at the regional level. Also, the use of smartphones for WFP monitoring and evaluation activities increased the speed of data collection, eased data transmission and analysis and significantly reduced costs.

2015 showed that strong community involvement in local school canteens through the provisions of cooking utensils, warehouses and facilities for storing vegetables, dried fish, leaves and fruit facilitates their functioning and sustainability. Notably, school feeding activities played an important role in keeping children at school in insecure areas of northern Mali.

Positive results from the P4P project further proved that WFP should continue using its purchasing power to ensure a market for an increasing number of FO and to boost their marketing and production capacity. The government supports the P4P initiative and announced the intention to allocate 33 percent of its national food security stock from FO. WFP should increase synergies between its school feeding activities and FO (P4P) and resilience activities.

WFP also continued to develop and scale up resilience activities in Mali because of the programme's positive results in past years. Programming tools (integrated context analysis (ICA), seasonal livelihood programming (SLP), and community based participatory planning (CBPP)) involving government authorities and communities at national, regional and local level have been particularly successful in planning and coordinating resilience activities throughout the country. It was proven that government and communities' involvement is crucial for ensuring project durability. Local implementing partners with extensive knowledge of the local context also ensure the project sustainability.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No	Commodity	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/ Purchased in 2015 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
Canada	CAN-C-00496-07	Beans		351	348
Canada	CAN-C-00496-07	Iodised Salt		15	0
Canada	CAN-C-00496-07	Sorghum/Millet		1,662	1,600
Canada	CAN-C-00496-07	Vegetable Oil		107	0
Canada	CAN-C-00496-19	Sorghum/Millet		1,594	1,594
Canada	CAN-C-00496-19	Split Peas		158	0
Canada	CAN-C-00496-19	Vegetable Oil		120	0
Canada	CAN-C-00507-17	Beans		190	182
Canada	CAN-C-00507-17	Sorghum/Millet		2,104	2,104
European Commission	EEC-C-00503-01	Iodised Salt		40	0
European Commission	EEC-C-00503-01	Sorghum/Millet		3,494	3,494
European Commission	EEC-C-00503-01	Split Peas		463	0
European Commission	EEC-C-00528-01	Corn Soya Blend		230	0
European Commission	EEC-C-00528-01	High Energy Biscuits		51	0
European Commission	EEC-C-00528-01	Iodised Salt		40	0
European Commission	EEC-C-00528-01	Rice		1,551	0
European Commission	EEC-C-00528-01	Sorghum/Millet		1,993	1,993
European Commission	EEC-C-00528-01	Split Peas		1,000	0
European Commission	EEC-C-00528-01	Vegetable Oil		239	0
France	FRA-C-00221-01	Corn Soya Blend		63	0
France	FRA-C-00221-01	Ready To Use Supplementary		128	0
France	FRA-C-00221-01	Sorghum/Millet		156	156
France	FRA-C-00233-01	Ready To Use Supplementary		106	0
Germany	GER-C-00397-01	Rice		1,011	959
Germany	GER-C-00409-01	Iodised Salt		5	0
Germany	GER-C-00409-01	Sorghum/Millet		335	335
Germany	GER-C-00409-01	Split Peas		55	0
Germany	GER-C-00409-01	Vegetable Oil		14	0
Japan	JPN-C-00382-01	Corn Soya Blend		550	0
Japan	JPN-C-00382-01	Ready To Use Supplementary		300	188
Japan	JPN-C-00382-01	Sorghum/Millet		3,467	3,467
Japan	JPN-C-00382-01	Split Peas		120	0
Japan	JPN-C-00382-01	Vegetable Oil		100	0
Japan	JPN-C-00438-01	Corn Soya Blend		700	0
Luxembourg	LUX-C-00125-03	Sorghum/Millet		556	556
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Corn Soya Blend		917	0
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Iodised Salt		77	0
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Ready To Use Supplementary		364	94
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Sorghum/Millet		501	501
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Split Peas		67	0
Switzerland	SWI-C-00424-01	Sorghum/Millet		1,057	1,053
United Arab Emirates	UAE-C-00017-01	Corn Soya Blend		169	0
United Arab Emirates	UAE-C-00017-01	Ready To Use Supplementary		169	0
USA	USA-C-01080-01	Vegetable Oil	40		1,400
USA	USA-C-01080-02	Corn Soya Blend	1,540		1,534
USA	USA-C-01080-02	Split Peas	2,300		2,277
USA	USA-C-01080-02	Vegetable Oil	1,020		1,020
USA	USA-C-01080-03	Corn Soya Blend	130		131
USA	USA-C-01093-01	Sorghum/Millet		4,974	4,951
USA	USA-C-01141-01	Sorghum/Millet		1,800	1,800
Total:			5,030	33,161	31,736