



Reporting Period: 16 September– 02 October 2024

Highlights

- Since the beginning of the rainy season in April, approximately 257,000 individuals have been affected by the floods. From September 17 to September 30, Mali reported that 26,478 people were impacted by natural disasters, comprising 7,545 men, 8,103 women, and 10,830 children. (Direction Generale de la Protection Civile , 2024)
- The Government declared a national flood disaster on 23 August 2024.
- The Ministry of National Education has postponed the start of the 2024-2025 new school year, originally scheduled for October 1st, until November 4th, 2024. This decision has been made in response to the extensive flooding that has affected schools, as some of them serve as shelters for displaced communities. The increasing river levels, along with significant rainfall in the Ségou region, have resulted in extensive flooding across all communes within the Macina circle and the Ségou region.
- A lack of sufficient funding for UNICEF's emergency response threatens to undermine ongoing efforts to address critical humanitarian needs in education, health/nutrition, WASH, and child protection.

UNICEF Mali

Seasonal floods
Flash Update No. 2
02 October 2024

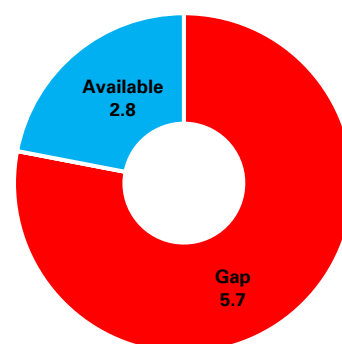
Situation in Numbers

	256,791 people affected ¹
	71,217 women 70,634 men
	114,940 children affected
	75 deaths
	148 injured
	110 schools used as shelters

UNICEF Mali Flood Appeal 2024

US\$ 8.5 million

Funding Status (in US\$)



Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

The floods in Mali represent a serious humanitarian shock, causing massive destruction and exacerbating the vulnerabilities of populations already made vulnerable by the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel. In addition, climate change is exacerbating these floods, compromising the well-being and survival of children and women.

Almost all of Mali's 20 regions have been affected by flooding to varying extents. The areas most severely impacted include Timbuktu, where 37,173 individuals have been affected, Ségou, with 71,882 individuals impacted, and the Bamako district which has seen 16,234 affected individuals. Across the country, 110 schools are currently being used to shelter those displaced by the floods, and 35 health centers have incurred damages.

Meteorological predictions suggest that flooding caused by rainfall will continue until November. Furthermore, river levels are anticipated to exceed the ten-year average, exacerbating the flooding situation. It is crucial to either rebuild or renovate the 110 schools before the new academic year begins, and it is imperative to relocate the displaced individuals currently residing in these educational facilities.

These images show the impact of the flood on schools for example in the Ségou region. They underscore the significant damages to educational infrastructure and the pressing requirement for repairs prior to the commencement of the academic year.



Program Response

In partnership with governmental entities such as the National Directorate of Social Development, the General Directorate of Civil Protection, and Regional Directorates, UNICEF has provided immediate support while also preparing for future requirements. Together with the Ministry of Social Development and OCHA, UNICEF is actively engaged in rapid assessments to evaluate the effects of the flooding, identify the specific needs of the affected communities, and adapt its interventions and resource distribution accordingly. Additionally, UNICEF has been instrumental in formulating the national flood management plan by facilitating workshops in Sikasso and Ségou.

UNICEF has strategically pre-positioned emergency supplies throughout Mali; however, these resources are insufficient. As they are utilized in response to the flooding, it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain sufficient stockpiles for other regions.

Displaced families encounter considerable obstacles in accessing educational facilities, exacerbating existing disparities. The floods have significantly disrupted education, particularly in the hardest hit areas. The

postponement of the 2024-2025 school year provides authorities with the opportunity to evaluate and restore educational infrastructure prior to reopening, while also encouraging community-driven initiatives to assist vulnerable pupils, thereby ensuring an inclusive and equitable back to learning. UNICEF is collaborating closely with the Government of Mali to facilitate the successful 2024 back to learning campaign.

Needs	Total	UNICEF Targets (40%)
Estimated number of people at risk 2024	343,909	138,000
Estimated number of children at risk 2024	185,711	74,000

Through active participation in the national inter-agency coordination framework, UNICEF delivered critical multi-sectoral assistance, addressing urgent needs across multiple sectors:

Health and Nutrition: In the Menaka region, mobile clinics supported by UNICEF carried out a total of 463 consultations, which encompassed 31 prenatal consultations. These services were provided in various neighborhoods, including Essankane, Touloupe, Almarkaz, Taekarène, Abbatoir, ATT-bougou ingereguef, Madina, and Intitalouwene. Among the 167 children who were screened, 8 cases of severe acute malnutrition and 21 cases of moderate acute malnutrition were identified.

Child Protection: In Intitalouwene, located in the Menaka region, animation activities took place in child-friendly spaces, serving between 100 and 200 children daily, including both those impacted by the disaster and those who were not.

Education: UNICEF has strategically positioned a total of 55 tents, comprising 30 tents of 48 m² and 25 tents of 72 m², within the educational facilities of Kidal, Gao, and Menaka. The distribution is as follows: 39 tents in Gao, 8 in Menaka, and 8 in Kidal.

In Gao, efforts are underway to advocate for the reopening of schools currently occupied by internally displaced persons. Of the 29 schools assessed, 16 are ready to receive pupils at the beginning of the school year, while the remaining 13 across five locations remain closed. A plan for the distribution of tents is being finalized in accordance with the identified needs.

WASH: In Gao, emptying and disinfecting latrines have been successfully carried out in eight schools accommodating families displaced by floods. Furthermore, hygiene promotion initiatives have reached 1,240 individuals impacted by the flooding.

Social and Behavioral Change (SBC): A communication strategy has been formulated to address the ongoing emergency. At the circle level, eight local monitoring committees have been set up: four in Gao, two in Kidal, and two in Menaka. Furthermore, a total of 180 messages have been disseminated via 15 radio stations (nine in Gao, three in Menaka, and three in Kidal), focusing on three key themes: education, mosquito nets, and social cohesion, with two broadcasts dedicated to each theme over a span of two weeks. UNICEF played a significant role in the development of this communication strategy.

Social Policy: As part of the implementation of the project "Promotion of Access to Financing, Entrepreneurship, and Employment in Mali (PAFEEM)," funded by the World Bank, the Government, with technical and financial support from UNICEF, is carrying out flood prevention and management activities. These efforts aim to improve urban drainage of gutters and sewers, as well as the paving of streets.

These activities have mobilized 11,000 young people and women to engage in sanitation and reforestation work across 83 villages and neighborhoods in seven regions of Northern and Central Mali (Mopti, Bandiagara,

Douentza, Tombouctou, Taoudeni, Gao, and Kidal). It is estimated that 441,520 people will directly benefit from these activities, while also serving as a lever for social cohesion.

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