



Period covered by report	11/04/12	To	03/05/12
Time of validity of report	hh/mm (local) – hh/mm (UTC)		

Violent incidents have taken place in **Bamako** since 30 April, with armed opposition between the military junta and ex-presidential guards of the former president (“*berets rouges*”). Gunfire was still heard until May 2 and initial reports from hospitals indicate more than 40 injured people and 14 people dead (final figures not confirmed yet). The overall situation remains tense and volatile whilst the operational environment for implementing humanitarian programmes in Mali is getting more complex.

Humanitarian situation

The situation remains tense and fluid in the **north of Mali** and violence towards civilians and looting continue to be reported in some areas such as in and around Tombouctou. The lack of access to affected population remains a key issue in order to provide urgent humanitarian assistance which has been only possible at a small scale, mainly in the health and nutrition sector in Tombouctou, Kidal, Gao and Menaka, and below needs level.

The Malian Red Cross has carried out a mission to Tombouctou during which initial contacts were made with the various armed groups present in the areas in order to start some mediation for humanitarian space and access.

UNDSS/OCHA/WFP has carried out an evaluation in Mopti and Segou in order to determine the possibility to fully reopen UN presence there, and the set up of an operational hub is now being prepared. WFP as well as some NGOs, such as CARE, CRS, ICRC and the Malian Red Cross are operational again in Mopti.

UNHAS flights have started to operate but cannot reach northern locations yet. .

Movements of population continue to be reported from the main towns (Gao, Tombouctou) but figures are still difficult to obtain due to access limitations and constant evolution of the situation. WFP is planning its operation on an assumption of **200,000 IDPs**. Some IDPs were identified in Bourem, coming from Gao, Kidal, Menetta and Tombouctou, as well as in and around Tombouctou. Various situations are reported such as IDPs staying with host families, IDPs that have moved not too far from their villages of origin which they can access during the day and IDPs that cannot access their homes and are not supported by host communities. Displacement towards Mopti and Segou is also reported.

OCHA reported on 1 May that 724 people in Niono and 1,300 people in Segou town (Segou region) have arrived from the north and are living with host families. In Mopti region, 14,220 IDPs in transit were also registered on their way to Ségou, Sikasso and Bamako.

The Malian Red Cross, CARITAS, CRS and the Regional Civil Protection are currently collecting data of population displacements in this region and have started registering 4,482 people in Mopti, Sio and Socoura and reporting IDPs in Koro, Bankass, Bandiagara and Djenné. Most IDPs have left with few belongings and are in need of emergency support.

More refugees are also reported in **neighbouring countries**, with a large increase in the past two weeks.

Country	Number of refugees
Mauritania	62,871 refugees. About 700 new arrivals are daily registered.
Niger	39,388 refugees and returnees (2700).
Burkina Faso	56,664 refugees – more arrivals are reported.
Algeria	30,000 refugees but updated figures have not been provided up to now.
Total	188.923 refugees (UNHCR, OCHA as of 02/05/12).

Per Sectors:

Food security:

In Gao region, the situation remains tense but with some slight stabilization compared to the past weeks marked by violence and looting. Markets have started slowly to reopen but with limited capacity and at higher prices. Market monitoring is difficult to be carried out due to the situation but some initial information received from local people in Gao indicates for example that a bag of 100 kg of millet costs 45,000 FCFA instead of 7-8,000 FCFA usually at this time of the year. The bag of 50 kg of wheat is around 22,500 FCFA, twice the usual cost. Owners of small cattle are facing difficulties due to increased costs for food and lack of pasture. Banks remain closed in the north, limiting then access to cash for local populations.

WFP confirmed that the losses (looted/seized commodities in the North) amount to 2,000 MT, including 479 MT planned under the emergency operation, for the treatment of MAM for children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women as well as distribution to IPDs, and 1521 MT under the country programme for school feeding, nutrition activities and food for assets. This would have enabled assistance to an estimated total of 200,777 beneficiaries. WFP also lost seven vehicles and all of sub offices' equipment in Gao, Tombouctou and Kidal.

Water:

According to initial contacts in the field with local partners or local authorities still in place (such as Mayors), access to potable water is jeopardized as water points have been damaged during the attacks and pressure is increasing on remaining wells due to arrival of displaced people. In some locations, people are increasingly using water from the river or from damaged and unprotected wells.

Health and nutrition:

The health sector has been affected by the crisis at various levels. Most health structures, including hospitals, have been damaged and looted during the various attacks and over three quarters of the health structures are evaluated as non functional in the North, with most priority programmes suspended (PEV, malaria, tuberculosis, AIDS, etc.). A large part of the health staff have fled following the attacks and health structures are now facing staff shortages, limiting then their capacity to function, including for complicated obstetrics cases and surgical capacity for injured people. Existing stocks of medicines and medical materials are also reducing and a regular supply is not in place anymore.

Many logistics means have also been lost, such as vehicles, ambulances, cold chain, medical material, etc. Epidemiological surveillance is not in place anymore and early warning systems in a fragile sanitary context are absent. Epidemic risk is however high and some areas are prone to cholera (Niafunké/Youvarou area) which, last year, started in July.

Treatment of malnutrition is interrupted as most structures are not functional and stocks of nutritional products have been looted. The deterioration of the food security situation and this limited treatment capacity are two critical issues for the nutritional situation which was already worrying due to the crisis that is affecting the Sahel region this year.

Health facilities in the areas that are hosting IDPs, such as Ségou and Mopti, are also facing an additional and increasing burden which cannot be covered by existing capacity.

Humanitarian response:

Level of response in **North Mali** remains extremely limited, mainly through support from medical NGOs (MDM, ALIMA, MSF) to health structures such as the hospital of Tombouctou and health centres in Menaka and Kidal. ICRC also provided some medicine and medical material to cover needs for 300 to 500 patients in the Gao hospital, which was fully looted and partly damaged, and transferred some injured people, and has deployed some medical staff

UNICEF has sent 20 basic interagency health kits (1 in Mopti, 3 in Gao, 1 in Kidal and 15 in Tombouctou) to cover the medical needs of 60,000 people for one month.

Some limited NFI distributions (from UNICEF) have been organised to IDPs staying around Tombouctou.

ICRC is providing 50,000 litres of fuel per day in order to ensure water provision in Gao. The Malian Red Cross has provided 5M of rice and some medicines and medical materials to the hospital of Tombouctou.

Some aid is also being distributed in **Mopti**: the Malian Red Cross has distributed some food to 864 people for 15 days. MSF is providing free health care to IDPs and provide technical support to referrals to the hospital. CARITAS has provided food to 189 people and CRS is currently distributing a 15 days ration to 3,000 IDPs and host families.

Further discussions are taking place in order to define ways of providing emergency assistance without undermining key humanitarian principles such as impartiality and neutrality in such complex environment. Provision of aid from neighbouring countries and from Mopti is considered.

In **Burkina Faso**, most of the refugees are now concentrated in the Sahel region with more than 56.000 people in two main areas (around Deou, 44.000 people in 4 locations and around Djibo, 12.000 people in two locations). CONAREF and UNHCR should deploy long term permanent teams in definitive sites in order to facilitate registration process.

Basic needs start to be covered: NFI distribution has been done and Health needs are covered by MSF and MDM. First massive food distribution is underway by WFP and water supply is still under process.

However, needs are still enormous and are constantly evolving following new arrivals, especially regarding shelter, protection, education.

First relocation in permanent camps has finally started late April. UNHCR and the government are currently finalizing a response plan to cover needs for 100.000 refugees and 30.000 hosting communities

In **Mauritania**, the response continues to be increased as refugees' influx remains high and needs not fully covered in Mbera camp.

As of 24 April, UNHCR (6059) and the government (167) have installed 6226 family tents. More than 3.000 additional tents are still needed.

80 showers have been constructed, i.e. 600 people per shower. 480 m³ of water are provided, i.e. an estimated 8.8 litre/person/day.

NFI distributions have been organised but only covering parts of the needs.
140 latrines have been constructed, i.e. 449 persons per latrine.
A 10-days food ration has been distributed by UNHCR and WFP.
MSF is providing health care in Mbéra camp and is preparing emergency surgery capacity in Bassikounou.

In Niger, 39,388 refugees are located in 4 main regions:

- Ayorou: 11,108 refugees in 4 sites near the border.
- Ouallam: 4,553 refugees in two sites (Sinégodar and Mangaize).
- Abala: 12,067 refugees in 5 sites, including the Abala camp that is hosting 6,286 people.
- Tillia: 11,660 refugees in 5 sites

CARE also reports 4,000 refugees dispersed in 30 villages of Banibangou.

The response from UNHCR has primarily focused on accessible sites and camps whilst assistance to refugees dispersed in villages or around the sites is mainly supported by NGOs.

In Tillia, the level of response remains limited whilst needs are still high, especially in terms of access to water and health services.

In other locations, MSF provides some emergency health support and vaccination has been carried out by the health authorities.

WFP has started food distribution with the Nigerien Red Cross (Tahoua and Ouallam departments) and Plan Niger (11,033 people received a one month ration in Ayorou department).

UNHCR is currently planning a response up to 60,000 refugees.

Humanitarian appeals are being prepared in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Mali.