

Hostilities and climate-related challenges in Mali continue to place lives at risk

Country: Mali

Emergency type: Protracted conflict, climate change and displacement

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# **Key Figures**



**7,107,194**Total people affected



**1,563,585**Women of reproductive age



**218,730** Estimated pregnant women



**604,190**People targeted with SRH services



**1,002,220**People targeted with GBV programmes



#### **Highlights**

- Mali is grappling with an unprecedented natural disaster as torrential rains and rising waters of the Niger River have caused massive flooding, displacing 73,778 people. This crisis unfolds within a highly volatile security context marked by ongoing conflict between government forces and non-state armed groups. These conflicts have led to widespread displacement, disrupted livelihoods, and severely limited access to essential services. The compounded effects of climate change, including intensified flooding, have further exacerbated population movements and vulnerabilities. Adding to the instability, this month saw the dismissal of the Prime Minister and the appointment of a new one.
- The regions of Timbuktu and Mopti are among the hardest hit by the rising river waters, with communities facing severe disruptions and heightened humanitarian needs. In response, UNFPA joined a multi-sectoral assessment mission in Mopti during the second week of November to evaluate the situation and coordinate support for flood-affected populations. The mission aims to address immediate needs while emphasizing long-term resilience in the face of overlapping crises.

#### **Situation Overview**

- The regions of Timbuktu and Mopti remain severely affected by the rising waters of the Niger River, with devastating consequences for communities. As of this month, 21,563 households—or 129,378 people—have been impacted by the floods. In Timbuktu alone, 259 flooding incidents were recorded, affecting 11,247 households and destroying 8,423 homes. In Mopti, UNFPA participated in a multi-sectoral assessment mission during the week of November 12, following floods in the Djenne Circle, where 12 municipalities and 85 villages were affected. The floods impacted 10,316 households—or 50,402 people—resulting in three fatalities and severe infrastructure damage, including to 24 health centers, eight community health worker facilities (CSComs), and several maternity wards. Key damages included the destruction of courtyards, toilets, consultation rooms, and the loss of essential medications, further limiting access to critical services for already vulnerable populations. The destruction of health infrastructure has particularly intensified risks for women and girls, restricting their access to sexual and reproductive health care and increasing their exposure to violence.
- According to the latest DTM report (September 2024), Mali hosts 378,363 internally displaced people (IDPs), marking a nearly 7% increase compared to the end of 2023. The number of returnees has also risen, yet many remain in dire need of support. This dynamic remains complicated by ongoing conflict and natural disasters, which continue to drive significant population movements. Access to essential resources and services remains a pressing challenge as communities struggle to rebuild amidst persistent instability and environmental crises.
- The broader security context in Mali remains dire, with conflict further endangering civilians and deepening existing vulnerabilities. The country is on maximum alert due to concurrent health emergencies, including dengue, COVID-19, meningitis, and measles, which are affecting the wider African region. The convergence of conflict, natural disasters, and health threats underscores the urgent need for coordinated humanitarian assistance to address the escalating needs of affected populations.



#### **UNFPA** Response

- UNFPA remains a critical provider of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services, delivering vital support to women and girls affected by conflict and natural disasters. In November, 851 GBV survivors received holistic care through One Stop Centers across Gao, Timbuktu, Mopti, and Menaka, ensuring access to comprehensive medical, psychosocial, and legal assistance. Additionally, UNFPA continued its support for six safe spaces for women and girls in Gao, Timbuktu, Goundam, Djenné, Ménaka, and Ansongo, offering psychosocial support and socio-economic reintegration services to 1,151 women and girls.
- To extend its reach, UNFPA deployed 15 mobile teams across Gao, Timbuktu, Menaka, Ségou, and Mopti, providing integrated SRH and GBV services to 7,044 individuals. In these efforts, 450 women and girls received dignity kits and participated in awareness sessions on SRH and GBV prevention and response. This mobile outreach complements UNFPA's broader emergency response, including the distribution of emergency IARH kits to 19 health centers in November—10 in Gao, 8 in Mopti, and 1 in Ségou.
- Since January, UNFPA has supported a cumulative total of 60 health facilities, addressing the gaps left by damaged and destroyed infrastructure due to flooding. Through the deployment of mobile clinics and the provision of essential medical supplies, UNFPA is ensuring that vulnerable communities continue to have access to life-saving health services, particularly for women and girls at risk. This ongoing support underscores the organization's commitment to addressing both immediate and long-term health and protection needs in crisis-affected regions.

## **Results Snapshots**



5,969

People reached with **SRH services** 72% Female 27% Male



19

Health facilities supported



3.075

People reached with **GBV prevention**, mitigation and response activities 80% Female 20% Male



6

**Safe Spaces** for women and girls supported



7,044

People reached with **mobile clinic**, activities 77% Female 23% Male



851

People reached with **One stop center**, activities

95% Female 5% Male



NFI	450	Non-food items (such as dignity kits) distributed to individuals
(ii)	6	Safe spaces for women and youth supported by UNFPA

#### **Coordination Mechanisms**

# Gender-Based Violence:

- Case Management Training: UNFPA continues to prioritize capacity-building, coordination, and advocacy to enhance the response to gender-based violence (GBV) in Mali. From November 12 to 14, a training session in Bamako brought together 35 GBV specialists, including case managers, child protection actors, and GBV Area of Responsibility (AoR) members, to focus on case management for child survivors of sexual violence. This initiative, supported by UNFPA, UNICEF, and GBV AoR coordination under the leadership of the National Program against GBV, followed the revision of the second edition of the GBV case management guidelines and aimed to strengthen skills and best practices for assisting vulnerable children.
- Training and Advocacy Workshop: Furthering its advocacy efforts, UNFPA supported a workshop on November 20–21 for regional and national GBV AoR coordinators, led by the Protection Cluster in Mali. The workshop, aligned with the recommendations of the 2023 Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM), addressed key challenges in the current context and provided a platform for actionable solutions. This activity was supported technically and financially by the Global Protection Cluster (GPC), underscoring the importance of coordinated action to address GBV in crisis settings.
- Advocacy: The GBV AoR Coordination presented a situational analysis of GBV to the Women's Empowerment Group, facilitated by the UK Embassy. The presentation emphasized the urgent need for increased funding, expanded service access, and stronger support for humanitarian actors in conflict-affected zones. With participation from government representatives, embassies, and UN agencies, this forum reinforced the critical need to prioritize the health, safety, and dignity of women and girls in Mali's volatile environment.

## Sexual and Reproductive Health:

- Capacity building of 16 health staff (Training of trainers) from the SSR Working Group on sexual and reproductive health of adolescents and youth in humanitarian contexts
- Capacity building of 20 mobile clinic providers in Mopti on sexual and reproductive health of adolescents and youth in humanitarian contexts
- Establishment of a mental health and psychosocial support working group in Gao, Timbuktu, Ménaka
- Holding of the monthly coordination meeting of the SSR Working Group at the National and Regional levels



### **Funding Status**

For 2024, UNFPA Mali requires US\$ 15 million to effectively reach its target populations. To date, US\$ 8.4 million has been mobilized, with US\$ 5.3 million allocated to SRH interventions and US\$ 3.1 million dedicated to GBV interventions. This leaves a funding gap of US\$ 6.6 million, representing 44 per cent of the total required amount to meet current needs.

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- UN Action (CRSV) MPTF: \$200,000
- Government. of Canada: \$411,445
- Government of USA (USAID/BHA): \$4,500,000
- Government of South Korea (KOICA): \$ 1,150,000 for Year 1 of a multiyear programme
- UNFPA Emergency Fund / Humanitarian Thematic Fund: \$500,000

