

THE FAO COMPONENT OF THE
SAHEL 2013
HUMANITARIAN APPEALS



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process
CBPP	Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDP	Internally displaced person
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
REOWA	Sub-regional Emergency and Rehabilitation Office – West Africa/Sahel
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

INTRODUCTION

This document represents the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) component of the 2013 Sahel Regional Strategy prepared under the coordination of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) covering five Consolidated Appeals (CAP) - *i.e.* Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger - as well as the humanitarian strategies of non-CAP countries (*i.e.* Cameroon, the Gambia, Nigeria and Senegal) in the region. In addition, FAO's response to the livelihood needs of those affected by the conflict in Mali is also reflected in this document.

In 2012, 18.7 million people were severely affected by food and nutrition insecurity across the Sahel region, and more than one million children under the age of five were at risk of severe acute malnutrition. The crisis that emerged was complex and multidimensional, driven by widespread poverty, chronic vulnerability and weakened resilience resulting from recurrent crises, which exhausted the capacities and coping strategies of vulnerable populations to withstand external shocks.

Although extreme food insecurity was averted and the worst crisis was mitigated last year, the 2013 food and nutrition security situation in the Sahel remains of concern. An estimated 10.3 million people are still at risk of food and nutrition insecurity, and more than 1.4 million children are at risk of severe acute malnutrition.

In order to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable people across the Sahel countries in 2013, FAO is appealing for a total of USD 135.3 million for livelihood interventions. The funding appeal includes USD 93.1 million for CAP countries, USD 17.6 million for non-CAP countries and USD 24.6 million for needs arising from the Malian conflict.

In 2012, FAO requested USD 122 million to address the food security crisis (including the locust threat); USD 58 million (48 percent) were mobilized. With the contributions received, FAO was able to support the livelihoods of more than 5.2 million people through: i) support to food crop and off-season production; ii) support to domestic animal protection and production; iii) soil and water conservation and rehabilitation; iv) early warning and preparedness support; and v) desert locust control and monitoring.

While these funds enabled FAO to support more than 5.2 million people (representing 67 percent of the 7.8 million people targeted by FAO), they represented only 7.5 percent of the funding for the whole food security sector. Important livelihood needs were therefore left unattended.

Recurring crises in 2005, 2008, 2010 and 2012 have eroded the coping capacities and weakened the livelihoods of the already vulnerable population, further impoverishing them. The majority of the most vulnerable people had not yet recovered from one crisis when the next hit and were unprepared to withstand new shocks such as erratic rains, low agricultural production, persistent high levels of food prices, national and regional insecurity and the threat of a desert locust infestation.

The ongoing conflict in Mali has aggravated the situation, with serious repercussions in the region. The humanitarian and security situation is deteriorating, impacting the living conditions of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and their host families. Supply routes are being disrupted and food stocks diminishing. This mass migration is causing further stress on communities already affected by food insecurity, and is creating competition over scarce resources, including grazing land and water. Access to the regions of combat is restricted, complicating humanitarian interventions and limiting access to information on the actual humanitarian situation and population movements.

For 2013, FAO has renewed its commitment to zero hunger through rapid scaling-up measures to meet the immediate nutritional needs of those who are at risk, while building longer term resilience by tackling the root causes of hunger.

Recognizing the need to break the vicious cycle of recurrent crises and emergencies in the region, FAO is strongly committed to support the Sahel region through a programmatic approach reflected in its Strategic Response Framework entitled “Urgent Action to Support the Resilience of Vulnerable Populations”. This serves as an overarching umbrella, not only for the humanitarian response, but also for the medium to long-term work of the Organization, including investment, with the overall objective to improve the food and nutrition security of vulnerable populations in the Sahel. FAO’s assistance proposed in the present document, as part of the aforementioned FAO’s resilience programme, is designed to protect and strengthen the livelihoods of the most vulnerable populations.

Requirements

For 2013, FAO is appealing for a total of USD 135.3 million to work with its food security and humanitarian partners and support livelihood interventions in the Sahel. This estimate is based on the current situation and could be revised depending on the evolving regional situation, in particular the repercussions of the Malian conflict affecting both Mali and neighbouring Sahel countries. The funding appeal includes FAO’s components of:

- the CAP 2013 (USD 93.1 million): Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger;
- the OCHA Sahel Regional Strategy 2013 (USD 17.6 million): Northern Cameroon, the Gambia, Nigeria and Senegal (non-CAP countries), and regional interventions coordinated by the Sub-regional Emergency and Rehabilitation Office for West Africa/Sahel (REOWA);
- the estimated needs deriving from the escalation of the Malian conflict (USD 24.6 million) - hence not included in the 2013 CAP - in line with the sectoral, national and regional contingency plans that were prepared in coordination with Contingency Plan “Mali +” developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC).

Countries	Requirements 2013	Requirements related to Mali conflict**	Total per country
Burkina Faso	14.4*	8.3	22.7
Northern Cameroon	2.4**	n/a	2.4
Chad	16.4*	n/a	16.4
The Gambia	6.2**	n/a	6.2
Mali	11.8*	10.2	22
Mauritania	4.7*	1	5.7
The Niger	45.8*	2.5	48.3
Nigeria	3**	n/a	3
Senegal	4**	2	6
Regional	2**	0.6	2.6
TOTAL	110.7	24.6	135.3

* CAP countries = 93.1

** non CAP = 17.6

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BURKINA FASO

BURKINA FASO

Almost half of the people in Burkina Faso live in extreme poverty and have little access to social services. Nearly one-third of the country is acutely malnourished and child malnutrition rates are among the highest in the world. The combination of climatic shocks, soaring food prices and regional political insecurity continues to strain the ability of vulnerable households to cope. An influx of refugees fleeing conflict in Mali and the lasting effects of the Sahel food and nutrition crisis led the Government to declare a national emergency in early 2012.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Around 73 percent of the population of Burkina Faso relies on agriculture for their food and income. Agriculture is central to reducing malnutrition and food insecurity, which currently affect more than 2.8 million people. However, the sector faces numerous threats, such as repeated drought and flooding.

In 2012, cereal production fell by 20 percent compared to the previous year due to drought, resulting in a 154 462-tonne cereal deficit. With insufficient food production, many farming families have resorted to consuming their seed stocks of cereals and beans, leaving them with fewer seeds to plant during the next season. In addition, localized flooding has affected nearly 150 000 people, destroying crops and killing livestock. Although forecasts for the 2012 harvest are favourable, households have exhausted their savings and food reserves, and will need assistance to recover.

More than half of rural households are poor, do not own land and have few animals, which are a crucial source of nutrition and income. The lack of pasture and water – as a result of drought – has weakened livestock and made them more susceptible to disease, leading to lower milk and meat production. In times of crisis, many families are forced to sell their animals, such as goats and sheep, in order to buy food.

Burkina Faso hosts close to 35 750 refugees from northern Mali, who brought with them an estimated 50 000 animals. Many settled in areas severely affected by drought. This has placed pressure on limited pasture and water resources – already strained by high population growth – thereby increasing the risk of conflict with host communities. If the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate in Mali, the number of refugees could increase significantly.

Grain prices in the country have increased by up to 70 percent in September 2012, compared to the year before. Years of insufficient production, high food prices and continued food insecurity have led to high levels of acute and chronic malnutrition. About 450 430 children under five are at risk of global acute malnutrition, including 100 000 who already suffer from severe acute malnutrition.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 16 967 845
- Human Development Index Rank: 181/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 92%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis, floods, cholera and meningitis outbreaks.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

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FAO response

Within the 2013 Appeal, FAO seeks to improve the food security of the most vulnerable pastoral, agropastoral and farming households in Burkina Faso. With much-needed support to strengthen livelihoods, these families will have the means to increase their access to food, nutritional status and income.

The most vulnerable livestock owners – including refugees and host communities – will be provided with livestock (such as sheep and goats) to rebuild their herds, chickens, animal feed and veterinary supplies to increase productivity. Where necessary, destocking will provide meat and income to families with extremely weak animals. FAO will also distribute fodder seeds to increase the production and availability of feed for livestock. All of these activities will be accompanied by training to improve livelihood practices, including herd management and fodder conservation.

Vulnerable farmers will receive farming kits – composed of vegetable seeds, fertilizers, phytosanitary products, community sprayers and watering cans – to increase vegetable production. This will provide families with an effective means to cope with food shortages, particularly during the lean season. Nutrition education sessions will increase vegetable consumption and boost nutrition levels, particularly among children. In addition, FAO will facilitate the construction of wells and rainwater retention basins to increase the availability of water for crop and livestock production in the Sahelian region of Burkina Faso.

FAO is leading the Agriculture Cluster with the aim to improve coordination among key stakeholders. FAO will organize regular coordination meetings, support the development of reference material and implement a food basket monitoring system. Cluster efforts will also promote information sharing and training to build the capacity of partners in order to minimize the time between the outbreak of crisis and response.



PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 14 416 166

Addressing food and nutrition crises through support to livestock production and health in Burkina Faso

Objectives:	To rebuild the livestock production capacity of vulnerable households in Burkina Faso in the context of food insecurity and high food prices.
Activities:	Provide 3 400 vulnerable households in four regions of Burkina Faso each with three small ruminants (sheep or goats), comprising one male and two female animals for reproduction purposes; provide balanced animal feed to 6 800 vulnerable families to improve the feeding of small ruminants; provide chicken units (1 cock and 10 hens) and chicken feed to 6 000 vulnerable households to reconstitute chicken flocks, thereby increasing the availability of eggs, decreasing the cost of meat and improving food intake for vulnerable households; provide veterinary care to small ruminants (vaccinations against pasteurellosis and deworming) and other animals (cattle, donkeys, camels and poultry); provide technical support to selected vulnerable households for better livestock rearing; and regularly follow up on livestock flocks.
Beneficiaries:	210 000 people (including 109 200 women and 31 500 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 2 510 000

Support to protect agriculture-based livelihoods of food-insecure vulnerable farmers through vegetable production in Burkina Faso

Objectives:	To reduce vulnerability to malnutrition and potential incidences of climatic hazards, and to rehabilitate the production capacities of farming families at risk in rural communities.
Activities:	Provide 12 600 vulnerable farming families with kits containing vegetable seeds, fertilizers, phytosanitary products (including protection equipment), community sprayers and watering cans; train women and men on vegetable production and nutrition education; monitor post-input distribution and production; and evaluate outputs and overall project impact.
Beneficiaries:	88 200 people (including 45 864 women and 13 230 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 2 499 614

Construction of wells and rainwater retention basins for vegetable gardens and livestock to support food crisis-affected households in Burkina Faso

Objectives:	To restore livelihoods and reduce food insecurity in a context of high food prices by supporting vegetable and livestock production and income-generating activities for vulnerable farming families (vegetable and cattle farming) in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso.
Activities:	Build 100 wells and 30 rainwater retention basins for vegetable production and 60 wells and 10 drilling wells for livestock use, based on defined technical specifications; identify and raise awareness of 7 200 vulnerable farming households in rural areas; ensure technical monitoring of the construction and post-construction work by project engineer and staff; and evaluate outputs and overall project impact.
Beneficiaries:	50 400 people (including 26 208 women and 7 560 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 2 126 168

Strengthening the resilience of food-insecure cattle-keeping farmers in Burkina Faso through appropriate forage production and use

Objectives:	To reduce vulnerability to malnutrition of at-risk cattle farming households by supporting forage production to increase animal feed availability and improve household resilience.
Activities:	Supply forage seeds to 10 000 vulnerable cattle-keeping farming households to support forage production and use; provide technical support to selected households on better livestock production systems, including technologies to conserve and use forage crops; and monitor, evaluate and report on project progress.
Beneficiaries:	77 000 people (including 40 040 women and 11 550 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 864 996

Improvement of vulnerable households' resilience through appropriate support to livestock productivity in the context of food insecurity in the Sahel and malnutrition in Burkina Faso

Objectives:	To reduce vulnerability to malnutrition by maintaining livestock productivity, significantly increasing food availability for nutrition security.
Activities:	Provide 20 000 vulnerable livestock-keeping households with animal feed to increase their earnings through the improved nutritional status of their livestock and increased production of milk or meat; provide veterinary drugs and vaccines to improve livestock health and to prevent animal morbidity and deaths; provide technical support on better livestock rearing and raise awareness on animal destocking; and monitor, evaluate and report on project progress.
Beneficiaries:	140 000 people (including 72 800 women and 21 000 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 2 594 908

Emergency assistance for the livestock of Malian refugees and host communities in Burkina Faso

Objectives:	To reduce the vulnerability of Malian refugees and their host communities, maintain livestock productivity and improve household resilience.
Activities:	Provide 4 200 small ruminants, comprising one male and two female goats to 1 400 refugees who lost all their livestock and vulnerable host households; supply balanced animal feed to 8 000 Malian refugee households and Burkinabé host communities; provide drugs and vaccines for 150 000 animals (cattle, small ruminants, donkeys and camels) of 14 500 refugees and Burkinabé host households to prevent and treat animal diseases; destock at least 2 120 ruminants of selected beneficiaries (5 heads per beneficiary); raise awareness of refugees and host communities on animal destocking; and monitor and report on project progress.
Beneficiaries:	105 000 people (including 54 600 women and 15 750 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 3 000 000

Improving the Agriculture Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management System in Burkina Faso

Objectives:	To ensure a comprehensive coordination programme, involving all stakeholders, to gather food security information to effectively target areas and vulnerable populations in need.
Activities:	Convene and chair national and regional agriculture coordination meetings; support early warning food security and monitoring system indicators; support the creation of a reference book for household networks including female-headed households (monitoring of food security indicators such as household incomes, health and food rations); design and support a monitoring system for a food basket network; share information on current activities, identify gaps in geographic coverage and document best practices and lessons learned; and provide capacity building on methodologies for needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation of impact, project development and design and reporting.
Beneficiaries:	2 863 000 people (including 1 488 760 women and 429 450 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 760 480



NORTHERN CAMEROON

NORTHERN CAMEROON

Cameroon is repeatedly affected by drought, flooding and desert locust infestations. People in the highly populated northern regions of the country are extremely vulnerable to food insecurity, particularly in the Far North region. The food insecurity of many vulnerable farmers was recently exacerbated by floods, which affected many villages of the North and Far North regions. In addition, the influx of refugees, mainly from Central African Republic, has added pressure to the limited resources available. Despite regular humanitarian assistance, food security remains a main concern for 2013.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Approximately 350 000 people are food insecure and being affected by drought and flooding in Cameroon. The northern regions of the country faced drought and insufficient rains in 2011, which resulted in a failed harvest. About 63 percent of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihood, and low levels of agricultural production led many families to deplete their food stocks.

In the last quarter of 2012, the North and Far North regions of Cameroon have experienced heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding, the worst in 40 years. The current food insecurity and nutrition emergency thus adds to the effects of recurrent crises, resulting in chronic and acute food shortages.

The rains and floods have wiped out homes, agricultural lands, crops and livestock. Villages were evacuated leaving people displaced. Many of them sought refuge in school premises or temporary campsites. Some IDPs have recently returned to their villages.

Consequently, a drastic harvest shortfall of cereal and cowpea production is expected in 2013. An evaluation carried out by the Governor's Office revealed that 7 254 households (approximately 50 778 persons) were affected by the floods in the North region, covering a total of 137 villages. In the Far North region, the situation was less serious, with only one village affected. There is concern that the situation will likely deteriorate with the rainy season starting in July.

FAO response

Following a request by the Government of Cameroon, FAO plans to assist **approximately 51 000 vulnerable farmers, mainly women affected by the flooding in 2012.** FAO aims to supply improved quality seeds and fertilizers, while simultaneously providing technical support to beneficiaries through training. In addition, FAO will strengthen pastoralists' livelihoods by supporting animal production and carrying out vaccination campaigns.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 20 386 800
- Human Development Index Rank: 150/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 63%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis, floods, locust and cholera, meningitis, malaria and measles outbreaks.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

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PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 2 430 000

Assistance to rehabilitating livelihoods and strengthening the resilience of households affected by flooding in 2012

Objectives:	To strengthen the resilience and restore the capacity of vulnerable households affected by recent floods in the North and Far North regions through improved crop production.
Activities:	Distribute improved cereal seeds and fertilizers; and provide technical support to beneficiaries throughout the cropping season.
Beneficiaries:	32 188 vulnerable farmers
Funds requested:	USD 1 560 000

Assistance to rehabilitating livelihoods and strengthening the resilience of pastoralists affected by flooding in 2012

Objectives:	To strengthen the resilience and restore the capacity of vulnerable pastoralists affected by recent floods in the North and Far North regions by supporting animal health and production.
Activities:	Distribute vaccines and vaccinate animals; and distribute animal feed, in particular to small ruminants.
Beneficiaries:	18 600 pastoralists
Funds requested:	USD 870 000





CHAD

CHAD

People in Chad struggle to overcome the effects of years of conflict and recurrent climatic events – from severe drought in the Sahel that triggered a major food and nutrition crisis in 2011/12 to **localized flooding in the South**. Displacement is a major driver of the humanitarian crisis, affecting around 622 000 people across the country. This includes almost 350 000 refugees from the Sudan and Central African Republic, 131 000 people displaced by internal conflict and 141 000 returnees primarily from Libya.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Around 1.2 million people in Chad are food insecure. Two-thirds of households rely on crop and livestock production. However, a high proportion of families cannot meet their food needs, as displacement, drought and floods have disrupted production, while high prices continue to place food on markets beyond their reach. Supporting the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people is imperative to reinforce their resilience.

Migration flows and population displacement have been a challenge for the past decade. Following the crisis in Libya, more than 90 000 Chadian migrant workers have returned home – primarily to food-insecure areas. Returnees, IDPs and refugees in Chad strain already scarce natural resources, causing tensions with host communities.

Climatic shocks in 2012 have also adversely impacted livelihoods and agricultural production. Drought across the Sahel region in 2011/12 led to low cereal and fodder yields, reduced pasture availability and increased animal losses. While a good 2012 rainy season has resulted in better yields, many parts of Chad have been hit by severe localized flooding. An estimated 560 000 people have been affected and up to 25 percent of cultivated land has been damaged in some areas. As the bulk of food production is carried out during the rainy season and provides food and income for the coming year, the floods will have serious repercussions on food security in these areas.

Even during good harvest years, many households do not produce enough to cover their needs. Once food stocks run out, families are forced to rely more on markets; but, with food prices remaining high and employment opportunities few, they cannot afford to buy the food they need. This contributes to poor dietary intake. Diets consist mainly of cereals, with little consumption of fruits and vegetables. Children often lack the vitamins and nutrients needed to grow. In the Sahel belt of Chad, an estimated 127 000 children under five are at risk of severe acute malnutrition, and 300 000 are at risk of moderate acute malnutrition.

Women are particularly at risk of food insecurity, mainly because they do not always have access to land for agricultural activities. They also gather wood and water, prepare meals and take care of children, among other tasks. In times of crisis, many women must sell their few productive assets – such as small ruminants – to make ends meet in the immediate term, further diminishing their livelihood base and leaving them more vulnerable each time.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 11 525 496
- Human Development Index Rank: 183/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 66%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis, locust, floods and meningitis outbreak.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

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FAO response

In 2013, FAO plans to support the most vulnerable households that have been affected by climatic shocks and the displacement crisis in Chad, by providing farmers with good quality cereal and vegetable seeds and agricultural tools, so they can produce the food they need for 2013 and well into 2014. FAO will increase access to water by helping communities to improve and build wells and irrigation systems, including providing water pumps.

FAO will provide women with gardening kits (including vegetable seeds and tools) and assist them to build fencing that protects their gardens from animals. Families will also receive support to better process, store and market their produce, including the construction of storage facilities and distribution of vegetable conservation and marketing kits. Training on better food utilization and nutrition will help families achieve more balanced diets, particularly for children.

Women without access to land will receive goats to rebuild their livestock herds. This will also provide their families with a source of food and additional income. In addition, FAO will train community animal health workers to ensure that livestock owners can access these vital services.

Timely and accurate information is necessary to assess the impact of shocks and develop rapid and relevant responses. The food security monitoring system in Chad is not fully operational, and the few isolated and decentralized information systems are not well coordinated. These critical information gaps must be filled in a country that faces cyclical shocks. FAO will continue to participate in needs assessments and food security monitoring, and strengthen contingency planning, risk analysis and early warning systems. More importantly, FAO will support the Action Committee for Food Security and Disaster Management in transitioning to a national food security coordination system.



PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 16 393 539

Improving Food Security Sector coordination and performance

Objectives:	To improve coordination of the Food Security Sector through enhanced Cluster performance.
Activities:	Plan and participate in needs assessment activities; support and train on food security monitoring, assessments and analysis, including mainstreaming gender dimensions; develop periodic Cluster strategy documents such as preparedness and contingency plans; monitor the implementation of response projects; organize technical trainings for national and international partners; forge closer ties with food security coordination groups; enhance the capacity to produce thematic and analytical products, including “who does what and where” action mapping; strengthen Cluster information-sharing and monitor Cluster performance; and train national stakeholders on coordination and information management skills.
Beneficiaries:	30 humanitarian actors (United Nations agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations [NGOs] and government bodies).
Gender marker:	0 – No signs that gender issues were considered in the project design.
Funds requested:	USD 1 100 000

Strengthening the livelihoods of vulnerable returnees and host populations

Objectives:	To improve the food security status of vulnerable returnees and host populations through support to food production.
Activities:	Provide 600 tonnes of rainy season seed (sorghum, millet, bean, cowpea, rice, etc.) to 20 000 households; supply gardening kits comprising 3 tonnes of seed (tomato, onion, garlic and chilli pepper), tools and pesticides to 20 000 households; provide 16 500 goats (15 000 female goats and 1 500 male goats) to 3 000 women and 1 000 donkeys to 1 000 women; supply 5 000 processing kits to 5 000 women to increase vegetable conservation and marketing; and train and provide technical backup to ensure operational success.
Beneficiaries:	294 000 returnees, resettled and host households (including 114 000 women and 58 800 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 7 283 396

Support to malnutrition reduction in the western Sahel belt of Chad

Objectives:	To improve the availability and use of food for vulnerable households in the Kanem and Bahr el Gazal regions.
Activities:	Provide gardening inputs, including 975 kg of seed; supply 650 wells with water pumps and provide kits to set up locally adapted irrigation systems; landscape gardening perimeters; restock small ruminants (19 950 goats) for vulnerable women; train community animal health workers to provide animal health services; support transformation and marketing capacities; and organize nutritional training sessions.
Beneficiaries:	61 800 households (including 31 394 women and 12 730 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 4 723 477

Emergency assistance to flood-affected populations in Chad

Objectives:	To assist vulnerable populations affected by the 2012 floods to improve their food security status through increased food availability.
Activities:	Distribute 1 050 tonnes of cereal seed (sorghum, rice and <i>bérébéré</i>) and bean seed to 60 000 households; distribute 18.6 tonnes of gardening seed (tomato, okra, onion, pepper, cabbage, eggplant, lettuce and garlic) to 30 000 households; and provide training and technical backup to ensure operational success.
Beneficiaries:	360 000 households (including 182 201 women and 75 851 children).
Gender marker:	0 - No signs that gender issues were considered in the project design.
Funds requested:	USD 3 286 666





THE GAMBIA

THE GAMBIA

The Gambia is highly susceptible to environmental and economic shocks such as recurrent drought, floods and high food prices, all of which can have a negative effect on household purchasing power, food security and malnutrition levels. Heavy rains in 2012 caused flooding to agricultural land, damaging over five million tonnes of seed stocks and hampering recovery efforts. Additionally, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) – considered the biggest threat to cattle production in sub-Saharan Africa – re-emerged after 40 years of non-existence in the country.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

The 2011 failed harvest had a severe impact on food and nutrition security in the Gambia. With about 68 percent of the population depending on agriculture for their livelihoods, decreased production can also put the national economy at risk.

Drought conditions have adversely affected food availability, seed security and nutrition levels in the country. The 2011 failed harvest led to very low agricultural production, with overall crop production decreasing by two-thirds compared with 2010, and by 50 percent compared to the five-year average. In 2012, farmers throughout the country experienced an early and protracted lean season and decreased production of cash crops. Household food stocks that usually lasted for about five to six months lasted only one to two months in the worst affected areas. About 80 percent of farming households depleted their food stocks by March 2012. Low agricultural production led to a significant drop in income, and combined with the highest levels of food prices since the 2008 food price crisis, buying food became increasingly difficult for many families.

Flooding during the 2012 rainy season and inadequate household food stocks have undermined farming livelihoods. The flooding has amounted to nearly 90 tonnes of lost household food stocks across the country. Livestock has also been affected by the floods, with over 1 000 animals killed either through drowning or disease. The vast majority of animals killed constitute poultry, small ruminants and cattle. Cattle death has mainly been attributed to the outbreak of CBPP, which could result in the death of over 50 percent of the entire national herd.

Persistent food security risk factors, challenges posed by climate variability and change as well as the inability of farmers to mitigate risks in the Gambia have resulted in low agricultural production. This has subsequently eroded the resilience of the people and undermined their capacity to withstand new crises.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 1 700 000
- Human Development Index Rank: 168/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 68%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis, floods, meningitis and CBPP outbreaks.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

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FAO response

FAO aims to address the emergency in the Gambia by investing in resilience, mitigating the current crisis and introducing drought-resistant agricultural production in order to restore the means of production in a timely manner by linking short-term actions with medium- to long-term development.

FAO will distribute improved cereal seeds and fertilizer for farmers to begin planting, and will also train farmers on conservation agriculture. FAO also plans to vaccinate livestock and provide feed supplements to herders to ensure livestock are healthy.

FAO will support disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management, both in concept and practice, to provide a basis for understanding the institutional setting needed to guide the transfer from reactive to more proactive disaster risk management, and promote long term risk reduction strategies and measures in the agriculture and allied sectors.

This strategic and results-based approach is in harmony with the Sahel Regional Strategy and the country-specific Strategy and Action Plan for the Gambia.



PROPOSALS - Food Security Cluster assistance

Total funding requested: USD 6 200 000

Restoring the livelihoods of vulnerable farmer households

Objectives:	To support households affected by the crisis to rebuild and to enhance their livelihoods.
Activities:	Distribute agricultural inputs such as improved cereal seeds and fertilizer; provide animal feed supplement, vaccines and drugs; and construct watering points for vulnerable pastoralists/agropastoralists and livestock.
Beneficiaries:	158 000 vulnerable people
Funds requested:	USD 5 400 000

Investing in building resilience of vulnerable farming communities

Objectives:	To ensure sustainable and resilient livelihoods and systems.
Activities:	Support advocacy to initiate and promote food security through conservation agriculture, agricultural risk insurance, land use planning to address underlying risk factors in productivity, integrated water resources management and construction of sustainable wells; enhance early warning by strengthening surveillance systems for plant protection and pest control; and provide capacity building support to integrate and enhance disaster risk reduction and management in agriculture and natural resources management.
Beneficiaries:	Farmer groups, local government authorities, national disaster management structures, NGOs and civil society organizations, the Gambia Chamber of Commerce and microfinance institutions
Funds requested:	USD 800 000



MALI

MALI

Mali has been suffering from the devastating effects of the food and nutrition crisis in the Sahel region over the last year. The situation has deteriorated further since April 2012, as internal conflict in the north has displaced over 400 000 people and access to food has become more limited. The impact of these shocks is affecting almost five million people. Food security is a major concern for 2013, with cereal production threatened by localized flooding and a potential locust infestation, as well as the ongoing security and political crisis.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

In 2012, over 4.6 million people in Mali were at risk of food insecurity as a result of climatic hazards and insecurity. **In 2013 at least 2 million people, of which more than half in the north, will be food insecure.** Long periods of drought in 2011 led to very low yields – with an estimated 41 percent decline in cereal production for 2011/12. Many families have exhausted their food reserves and are adopting negative coping strategies, such as reducing their number of meals or selling their productive assets in order to buy food.

Massive displacement of the population – over 200 000 IDPs across the country and 200 000 refugees in neighbouring countries – is putting enormous pressure on the meagre resources of host communities already weakened by drought. Although some IDPs have started to return home and resume farming activities, many have not been able to cultivate their land as they have little or no access to the tools, seeds and animals necessary to begin production.

The conflict in the north has hampered the provision of humanitarian aid, leaving some of the most vulnerable people without assistance. Animal health services, markets and income-generating activities are being disrupted in insecure areas, affecting the livelihoods of families that are predominately pastoral and agropastoral. Locust swarms have remained in the north and have not damaged main cereal cropping areas in the rest of the country.

Three-quarters of the Malian population is dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods. However, lack of access to quality seeds, agricultural inputs and equipment, recurrent natural disasters and limited knowledge of innovative farming techniques, such as conservation agriculture, hinder production and sustainability. Furthermore, inadequate storage and conservation conditions often lead to high crop losses. Pastoralists also lack basic inputs such as water, feed and veterinary supplies to keep their animals alive and productive. The continued loss of their most important assets is making it increasingly difficult for farmers and pastoralists to withstand repeated shocks and maintain their livelihoods.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 15 835 389
- Human Development Index Rank: 175/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 75%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis, conflict, locust and floods.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

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FAO response

In 2013, FAO seeks to help 490 000 crisis-affected people in Mali build stronger livelihoods through a wide range of farming and livestock support. Pastoralist and agropastoralist families will receive small animals - such as goats and other small ruminants - to begin rebuilding their herds, together with feed, supplies, veterinary kits and training in good husbandry practices geared to increase production.

FAO will support or restore existing surveillance systems, such as the epidemiological surveillance network, to ensure disease prevention by monitoring livestock health and preparing for emerging health threats.

In addition to quality seeds and farming tools, FAO aims to strengthen the resilience of the vulnerable population by providing farmers with the means to better process, conserve, diversify and restore their production. This includes the construction of storage facilities, protection of water points and agricultural sites and provision of related equipment. Farmers' groups, including both men and women, will learn improved farming methods and better conservation techniques to reduce post-harvest losses. Additional training will be provided to women's groups to increase knowledge of improved nutrition, poultry production and gardening techniques to help families achieve a more diversified diet.

The complex operational environment resulting from widespread insecurity in the north calls for stronger coordination and joint planning among the humanitarian partners. To facilitate this process as part of its role in the Food Security Cluster, FAO will regularly collect, analyse and disseminate food security information to support decision-making. Strengthened coordination will also allow Cluster partners to leverage their respective advantages, in terms of access and expertise, to ensure timely and effective action. Additionally, FAO will carry out monitoring and evaluations of the locust infestation threat.



PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 11 785 072

Effective coordination and leadership of the Food Security Cluster in Mali (joint project with WFP)

Objectives:	To ensure strong and effective cluster leadership and coordination of the humanitarian food and agriculture response, including support to coordinated food security situation and response framework analysis.
Activities:	Establish and maintain effective Food Security Cluster coordination mechanisms and build the capacity of members to adopt a standardized language; assign responsibilities among Cluster members; reinforce the use of the emergency food security situation and response analysis toolkit; regularly collect, collate, analyse and disseminate relevant Cluster-specific information to all stakeholders; promote and support sector contingency and disaster preparedness planning; and ensure full integration of cross-cutting issues.
Beneficiaries:	4 600 000 beneficiaries of food security interventions.
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 282 000

Building the resilience capacity of vulnerable farming and pastoral households affected by the food, nutrition and humanitarian crisis in six regions of Mali

Objectives:	To contribute to strengthening the resilience of populations affected by the effects of the food, nutrition and humanitarian crisis in Mali.
Activities:	Support agriculture activities by distributing seeds, tools and equipment, as well as strengthening production, processing and marketing; distribute nutritional kits to women's groups and support them in poultry production through training and input provision; support livestock production through restocking and distributing animal feed, fodder and veterinary kits; construct storage warehouses and distribute conservation and processing equipment; promote and build the capacity of aquaculture farming; and train beneficiaries on farming, livestock breeding and agricultural conservation techniques and nutrition education.
Beneficiaries:	490 000 farming and pastoral people (including 245 000 women and 100 000 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 11 503 072



MAURITANIA

MAURITANIA

Mauritania has been seriously affected by the 2012 Sahel food and nutrition crisis, straining the resources and resilience of the rural poor. A rapid increase in food prices has drastically weakened the purchasing power of most families, deepening poverty. Furthermore, thousands of families have found refuge in Mauritania since fighting erupted in northern Mali in January 2012. They are living in harsh conditions with limited resources and means to sustain themselves.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Today, one million people in Mauritania are food insecure, and more than 105 000 children under five suffer from global acute malnutrition, compared to 90 000 in 2011.

The lack of rain in the past years has left many wells dry, making water scarce for human and livestock consumption. As a consequence, pastoral families have lost between 30 and 60 percent of their livestock, and are struggling to re-establish their livelihoods. They have adopted negative coping mechanisms, such as reducing the number of meals, consuming poor quality food or selling key productive assets, such as livestock, further compromising their resilience to future shocks.

Animal diseases, such as *peste des petits ruminants*, Rift Valley fever and pasteurellosis, in addition to higher mortality rates and decreased animal reproduction, have led to a sharp decrease in milk production. This has contributed to higher rates of malnutrition among children in pastoral and agropastoral communities.

Many families in the southern and south-west regions of Mauritania have exhausted their food stocks, and are no longer able to feed themselves. Due to the 2011/12 drought, households have been unable to produce sufficient food to cover their daily food requirements and have had to rely on commercial imports or food aid.

The rise in food prices since July 2012 is predicted to worsen the food security situation in the country in 2013. High food prices have already led to a decrease in the purchasing capacity of Mauritanian families, reducing their access to food and essential agricultural inputs. Many of them are now trapped in a downward spiral of weak production capacity and chronic food insecurity.

More than 80 000 Malian refugees fleeing hostilities in their country have settled in the eastern region of Hodh Ech Chargui. This large-scale and sudden displacement has rapidly depleted already scarce resources and degraded the environment. The resulting increase in population has generated a higher demand for food and goods, contributing to price increases which could lead to conflicts between local communities and refugees.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 3 541 540
- Human Development Index Rank: 159/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 50%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis and locust.

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Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

FAO response

As part of the 2013 CAP, FAO aims to strengthen and diversify the livelihoods of Mauritania's farming households affected by recurrent drought, especially helping the most vulnerable to cope better with ongoing and future shocks.

The timely provision of agricultural inputs will help prevent the food and nutrition crisis from worsening, while also decreasing dependence on food aid and promoting self-reliance. FAO will help vulnerable farming families produce nutritious food within a few months by distributing vegetable seeds - more tolerant to climatic changes - fertilizers, tools, drainage and fencing material.

To help strengthen the resilience of pastoral communities, FAO seeks to establish pastoral field schools and support the management of local cooperatives. Additionally, efforts will be made to prevent and control the spread of animal diseases by strengthening animal disease monitoring systems and providing vaccines and other veterinary supplies to herders. FAO also aims to strengthen the national livestock services through training on the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards.

To assist Malian pastoral refugees to rebuild their herds and alleviate the burden on host communities, FAO will distribute animal feed and mineral and vitamin supplements, and train beneficiaries on the use of crop residues as animal feed.

FAO will continue to co-lead the activities of the Food Security Cluster with the World Food Programme, in close collaboration with the Government. The Cluster will collect and analyse food security data, participate in national and regional meetings and contribute to the development of food security strategies, programmes and projects with experts from local governments and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These activities aim to improve the transition between emergency and development and ensure that the response of humanitarian partners is efficient and reaches the communities most in need.



PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 4 730 381

Restore and strengthen the food security of pastoral households in Mauritania

Objectives:	To increase the resilience of households engaged in small-scale livestock production by contributing to the development of diversified and sustainable livelihoods.
Activities:	Support the management of farmer cooperatives and train them on gardening techniques and the use of food supplements; establish vegetable gardens and distribute fodder production material; produce animal feed blocks with locally available materials; create, organize and manage pastoral field schools and provide support through training and coaching; strengthen and support the national livestock services through training on the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards; initiate crop residue treatments for enriched animal feed; set up a mechanism to make fodder stems and seeds regularly available; and support the research centre for the production and distribution of high quality seeds and plants.
Beneficiaries:	500 000 people (including 186 000 women and 167 000 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 2 048 141

Developing the capacities of vulnerable households to withstand shocks by strengthening and diversifying their livelihoods

Objectives:	To develop the capacities of the most vulnerable Mauritanian farming households to cope better with shocks by strengthening and diversifying their livelihoods.
Activities:	Distribute vegetable seeds, rice seeds, cuttings, fertilizers and tools; supply fencing and drainage material; provide technical support to farmers to improve their production; train women's groups on nutrition education; rehabilitate dams and train beneficiaries on dam maintenance; and support the processing of products that have good marketability.
Beneficiaries:	126 000 people (including 63 000 women and 42 000 children).
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 1 651 072

Livestock protection assistance to Malian refugees and host populations in eastern Mauritania

Objectives:	To reduce the dependence of refugee households in targeted areas by contributing to the development of sustainable and diversified livelihoods linked to livestock.
Activities:	Distribute vaccines, antibiotics, pesticides, vitamins and mineral supplements and raise awareness on their proper use; provide briefings on commercial destocking; support and facilitate the sale of animals; teach farmers on the production and use of crop residues for enriched animal feed; and strengthen and support government livestock services through training, including on the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards.
Beneficiaries:	80 000 refugees and people in host communities (including 24 000 women and 27 000 children).
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 595 816

Consolidate coordination of the food security and agriculture response and strengthen the information and analysis system

Objectives:	To coordinate work among all actors in the food security and agriculture sectors, improve data analysis on agriculture and food security, facilitate the transition from emergency to development through a consolidated disaster risk management approach and strengthen the resilience of the targeted populations.
Activities:	Collect baseline information on food security for analysis; participate in national and regional meetings on food security; contribute to the development of strategies, programmes and projects on food security; strengthen collaboration with food security experts and advisors from regional offices, governments and other international organizations; promote assessment and analysis tools such as Integrated Food Security Phase Classification and Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards; and strengthen collaboration with the Government.
Beneficiaries:	1 000 000 people (including 520 000 women and 480 000 children).
Gender marker:	0 – No signs that gender issues were considered in the project design.
Funds requested:	USD 435 352





THE NIGER

THE NIGER

The severe food and nutrition crisis affecting the Sahel region since late 2011 continues to impact millions of people in the Niger. Climatic and economic shocks – coupled with the spillover effects of conflict in neighbouring countries – brought many challenges to rural communities in 2012. Flooding displaced more than 500 000 people, destroyed crops and increased the risk of disease outbreaks.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Three major food crises in the last seven years have significantly weakened the livelihoods and resilience capacity of small-scale farmers in the Niger. More than 3 million people are in a state of chronic food insecurity, and their ability to withstand shocks is exhausted. Malnutrition rates have worsened between 2011 and 2012, and are expected to rise further in 2013.

Agricultural and livestock production was poor and food prices increased significantly following the drought in 2011/12. This made the 2012 lean season (May/June to September) even more difficult for families. Pastoralists and agropastoralists continue to face numerous challenges, such as limited availability of animal feed in local markets, animal diseases and the absence of pastoral water points network. When livestock numbers decline, families lose their most important safety net, which provides quick access to food and income in times of crisis – and with it, their resilience.

Since fighting broke out in northern Mali in January 2012, more than 65 000 people have fled to the Niger, and are in need of assistance. Most refugees are agropastoralists, and some have travelled with their animals, increasing competition over access to limited grazing areas. Food has become more scarce and expensive in communities hosting refugees, which were already hard hit by the food and nutrition crisis.

In addition, 2012 saw unprecedented flooding, which affected more than 500 000 men and women, especially in the Tillabéry and Tahoua regions. It destroyed crops, particularly rice and vegetables, and forced thousands from their homes. The risk of disease outbreaks, including malaria, measles and cholera, also increased (5 000 cases reported in October 2012).

Extensive summer rainfall encouraged swarms of desert locusts to grow, threatening harvests. Poor access to some locust breeding areas due to insecurity in neighbouring countries – northern Mali, Libya and Algeria – has made it difficult to adequately monitor the locust situation. This could have a significant impact on food security in the Niger if emergency measures are not taken.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 16 068 994
- Human Development Index Rank: 186/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 83%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis, locust, floods and cholera outbreak.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

CONTACT

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FAO response

FAO's proposed actions not only meet the immediate needs of vulnerable female and male-headed households affected by disasters but also lay the foundations for a sustainable recovery and transition to development. They are in line with the Sahel Plan developed by FAO in 2012 and with the 3N initiative (Les nigériens nourrissent les nigériens) led by the Government.

Extensive livestock rearing is still the dominant production system in pastoral and agropastoral areas of the Niger, with animals exclusively fed on hay. However, given recurrent fodder deficits, this is not a sustainable practice. FAO aims to develop alternative sources of fodder and help herders better manage their livestock to draw additional revenue from their production. Other interventions to increase the resilience of vulnerable communities include the provision of goats and sheep and the implementation of cash-for-work activities to restore pastures as well as rehabilitate water points in pastoral areas.

To help the Niger better prepare for, prevent and mitigate the impact of disasters, FAO intends to reinforce the national seed systems and coordination capacities for disaster risk management. To this end, FAO will promote the marketing of improved seeds through seed fairs, the establishment of a national seed stock in regional centres and the building of storage facilities.

In collaboration with local and international NGOs, other UN agencies and the Government, FAO aims to provide vocational skills training to promote dietary diversification and good nutrition practices, with particular attention given to women-headed households and vulnerable youth, and to establish farmer field schools, focusing on adaptation to climate change and disaster risk management.



PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 45 846 398

Contribution to resilience capacity development for pastoralist and agropastoralist households

Objectives:	To restore and reinforce the capacities of pastoralist and agropastoralist households to anticipate, absorb and adapt to crises and catastrophes.
Activities:	Distribute more than 155 000 animals; implement pastoral field schools; create animal feed banks in at least 25 targeted areas and multi-nutritious block production units in at least 50 vulnerable villages; rehabilitate water points in pastoral areas; implement cash-for-work activities for the restoration of pastures; establish a livestock health and supplementary feeding monitoring system; promote improved community-managed veterinary services; and train beneficiaries on nutrition practices.
Beneficiaries:	575 000 people (including 242 250 women and 100 000 children).
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 20 550 279

Improvement of the resilience of vulnerable households

Objectives:	To restore and reinforce the capacity of vulnerable households to anticipate, absorb and adapt to crises and catastrophes.
Activities:	Distribute improved seeds, kits and microdose fertilizers; establish farmer field schools focusing on climate change adaptation and disaster risk management; implement cash-for-work activities for the restoration of ecosystems and the creation of productive assets; strengthen the production of improved seeds of staple foods and build storage facilities; promote the marketing of improved seeds through agricultural input shops and seed fairs; promote national seed stocks; train beneficiaries on good nutrition practices; monitor agropastoral campaigns and markets; update food security database and information on implemented activities; and strengthen multi-sector and inter-cluster collaboration.
Beneficiaries:	1 166 667 people (including 476 000 women and 233 000 children).
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 25 296 119



NIGERIA

NIGERIA

Poverty is still widespread in Nigeria, especially in rural areas where social services and infrastructure are limited. The country is also prone to floods, drought, plant pests and livestock diseases, as well as soil erosion. In addition, the violent activities of the Islamist Boko Haram movement in the country are causing social and political unrest that slows down recovery. Consequently, ensuring food and nutrition security remains a priority challenge in Nigeria.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy, contributing to 40 percent of GDP and employing about two-thirds of the population. The sector has experienced significant growth over the past few years, averaging 7 percent per annum. However, productivity has stagnated in the northern regions of the country (part of the Sahel), and even declined in some areas as a result of recurrent natural disasters. Absolute poverty remains high in the country, particularly in the North West and North East regions, leaving many farmers unable to access the agricultural inputs they need to raise production levels. These regions have high levels of malnutrition with stunting at 53 and 49 percent, and wasting at 20 and 22 percent, respectively.

Vulnerable households have not fully recovered from the crop failures of the 2010 and 2011 growing seasons, and the severe flooding during the 2012 cropping season. After months of hardships, low agricultural production has left households more vulnerable to food insecurity.

Insufficient household production also resulted in food stocks that only lasted about three to six months in the northern states. Families turned to markets to access food, but reduced incomes and higher food prices have decreased their purchasing power and further threatened their food security. Poor and very poor households spend at least 50 percent of their income solely on food, and are sometimes forced to resort to negative coping mechanisms such as using family savings, selling assets, credit support, skipping meals and external aid.

Nigeria also lacks organized information for evidence-based policy making and programming by the Government and its partners. This information is key to inform and guide humanitarian responses to address chronic and recurring food insecurity and malnutrition in the northern regions of the country.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 162 470 737
- Human Development Index Rank: 156/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 66%
- Recent emergencies: insufficient rains, floods, security challenges and cholera, meningitis and measles outbreaks.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

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FAO response

In 2013, FAO, in collaboration with its partners and national counterparts, aims to strengthen national capacities to regularly monitor food and nutrition security as part of the Early Warning System. This approach will promote disaster risk reduction and mitigation, increase institutional capacity for food emergency preparedness, response and rehabilitation as well as strengthen institutional coordination and collaboration. Increased monitoring will help foster social safety-nets for the most vulnerable groups. Regular and rapid vulnerability assessments will also provide stakeholders with gender-sensitive information and help promote climate-smart agriculture to improve household food security.

FAO will also distribute agricultural inputs, including rainy and dry season seeds, to 40 000 vulnerable farmers. In addition, FAO will apply the farmer field school approach to train rural communities on conservation agriculture in order to strengthen their resilience to drought.



PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 3 000 000

Nigeria strategy and response plan for agriculture, food and nutrition security

Objectives:	To rebuild the livelihoods of food insecure, resource-poor rural households affected by crop failures due to early cessation of rains in 2011, or flooding in 2012.
Activities:	Supply and distribute seeds and other production inputs for wet and dry season farming to crop, livestock and fish farmers; apply the farmer field school training approach to train rural communities on conservation agriculture in order to strengthen resilience to drought; build capacity for food security vulnerability assessments, for planning and mitigation; and support communication and use of information for decision-making by Government, as well as for development and humanitarian partners.
Beneficiaries:	40 000 vulnerable farmers (including 16 000 women) and Ministry of Agriculture, food security partners, the Food Security Division of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and the National Emergency Management Agency.
Funds requested:	USD 3 000 000



SENEGAL

SENEGAL

High food prices, low agricultural production, localized flooding and recurrent drought have eroded the livelihoods of vulnerable agropastoralists in Senegal. In addition, many families are still facing the consequences of the 2012 Sahel food and nutrition crisis, making food security a major concern for 2013.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

More than 739 000 people in rural areas, and 67 000 people in urban areas of Senegal, are food insecure. The country is prone to natural disasters, and has suffered from food crises that have repeatedly deteriorated the resilience of the vulnerable population. These crises have also led to high levels of malnutrition, with nearly 650 000 children under five currently at risk of acute malnutrition and severe acute malnutrition.

Agricultural production is expected to be higher in 2013 than in 2012. Still, poor and very poor families have not recovered from the Sahel Crisis and levels of food insecurity will persist. Some localized areas will experience a decline in production due to flooding and the late start of rains in the north, leaving 128 521 people food insecure. Food access remains a concern given the high level of cereal prices and the weak purchasing power of households.

In late August and early September 2012, torrential rains caused localized flooding in several regions of Senegal. Approximately 2 900 ha of cultivated land were destroyed and 287 000 people were affected. Flooding not only damaged cultivated land but also property, leaving more than 5 000 families displaced. Many of these families lost their productive capacity and had their food stocks completely destroyed.

Pastoral production is better than in 2011/12, with the exception of areas that experienced delayed rains. Areas with insufficient pasture are seeing pastoralists begin early transhumance. Lack of fodder and water is weakening livestock. In addition, the outbreak and development of CBPP, in areas bordering the Gambia, is causing heavy losses in cattle.

KEY FACTS

- Population: 12 767 556
- Human Development Index Rank: 155/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 70%
- Recent emergencies: Sahel Crisis, floods, locust and cholera outbreak.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

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FAO response

In Senegal, FAO seeks to improve the resilience of 60 000 vulnerable households by supporting agropastoral production. Families will be provided with seeds, fertilizer and agricultural tools to enable them to start planting, and will also be trained on production techniques. Women's groups will be provided with vegetable seeds for gardening. Restoring the productivity of agricultural and pastoral land will also be supported by improving access to water. FAO will build and rehabilitate pastoral wells and ponds.

FAO will restock the most vulnerable pastoral households, provide feed and deworm livestock. FAO will also build silos and establish livestock feed banks to ensure feed continues to be available. In addition, limiting the spread of CBPP will also be supported in refugee and host community areas.

FAO will support disaster risk management through training sessions for beneficiary households and community leaders, as well as provide support at community level for the application of best practices in disaster risk management and reduction. FAO will support the Early Warning System in Senegal through capacity building by collecting information, improving communication and advocating for sustainable funding. FAO will improve coordination by participating in the group for food safety, informal nutrition group, platform for disaster risk management and the working group for rural development and food safety.



PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 4 000 000

Assistance to rehabilitating livelihoods and strengthening the resilience of agropastoral households affected by natural disasters in 2011-12 in Senegal, as well as Malian refugees

Objectives:	To improve the availability of food and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable populations affected by the low agricultural production of the 2011/12 agricultural campaign, as well as refugees from Mali.
Activities:	Distribute crop and vegetable seeds, tools and fertilizers; rehabilitate and build pastoral wells; support storage capacity; provide animal feed; support vaccination campaign to stop the spread of CBPP; train households on production techniques; support awareness training in disaster risk management; train on water management; restock livestock herds; support the Early Warning System in Senegal; improve access to water for agriculture and livestock use; restore agricultural and pastoral land (dams, tree cover, swamps); and support coordination by participating in various groups such as the Food Security Coordination Group.
Beneficiaries:	69 000 agropastoral households (including 9 000 Malian refugee and host population households).
Funds requested:	USD 4 000 000



REGIONAL COMPONENT

REGIONAL COMPONENT

REOWA provides strategic orientation for FAO's emergency and rehabilitation programme on the ground and acts as a liaison between the various FAO offices and the existing humanitarian aid network in the subregion.

To reinforce the efficiency and ensure synergies of activities that support food and nutrition security, and to strengthen resilience in the Sahel, REOWA works closely with national stakeholders, regional bodies and fora (such as governmental bodies, Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, Famine Early Warning Systems Network, IASC, Agricultural and Food prospects in the Sahel and in West Africa, other United Nations agencies and NGOs) in order to promote concerted and coordinated responses. When a crisis occurs, REOWA actively participates in the preparation of the United Nations Humanitarian Appeals made in the subregion, to ensure the coherence and complementarities of the projects proposed by different stakeholders in the field of food and nutrition security. REOWA contributes to analysis of the immediate and underlying causes of food insecurity, as well as evaluations of risks and early warning that can inform decision-making at the national and regional level.

REOWA also plays a crucial role in providing strategic advice and technical support to FAO's operations that aim to support the resilience of agropastoral systems in the Sahel.

FAO's regional response

FAO aims to improve the preparedness of its country offices, as well as regional and country partners in order to increase resilience and support affected populations in response to food and nutrition crises in West Africa and the Sahel.

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PROPOSALS - FAO emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 2 000 000

Regional strategy and response plan for agriculture, food and nutrition security

Objectives:	To strengthen the resilience of populations affected by malnutrition and food insecurity, and reduce the negative impact of food and nutrition crises in West Africa and the Sahel.
Activities:	<p>Output 1: Crisis preparedness is strengthened through better regional coordination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write and review regional humanitarian appeals and improve performance indicator. • Highlight key gaps in resources and key advocacy actions required by stakeholders. • Share food security analysis and promote resilient livelihoods. • Contribute to an adequate consideration of food and nutrition security aspects. <p>Output 2: Disaster risk reduction and resilience approaches are promoted among food security and nutrition stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies among FAO and partners, including cash and safety nets. • Participate and contribute to the disaster risk reduction national/regional workshops for capacity building and sharing of best practices. • Provide disaster risk reduction support to, and share relevant information with FAO's offices in the subregion. • Promote DRR Best Practices related to Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security. <p>Output 3: Food security needs assessment, monitoring and early warning systems at national and regional levels are strengthened in a concerted and integrated way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide analysis of the subregional food security and nutrition situation, alerts and food security forecasts. • Participate in the subregional studies and assessments including annual crop and market assessments. • Provide strategic and technical support to FAO's offices in the subregion. • Participate in the national Integrated Food Security Phase Classification exercises and Early Warning Systems training, when necessary. <p>Output 4: The food security threats caused by the Malian conflict in the region are timely and accurately addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase preparedness through contingency plans and increased coordination. • Capacity reinforcement in affected countries. • Provide resource mobilization/advocacy, etc.
Beneficiaries:	Donors, United Nations agencies, NGOs, governments, FAO's offices in the subregion, and vulnerable rural households (e.g. victims of soaring prices, floods, drought, locust, animal diseases, IDPs and refugees).
Funds requested:	USD 2 000 000





CONFLICT IN MALI

CONFLICT IN MALI

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

The food security situation in Mali is rapidly deteriorating, particularly in the north with closed markets, increased insecurity especially in rural areas, disruption of trade, increasing prices and depleting food stocks. The security situation remains volatile and unpredictable, restricting access to affected areas and preventing humanitarian workers from operating effectively. The number of food insecure individuals in the north is estimated at 585 000 and counting, with 1.2 million people at risk (Food Security Cluster estimates). An acute food security and nutrition crisis could rapidly emerge.

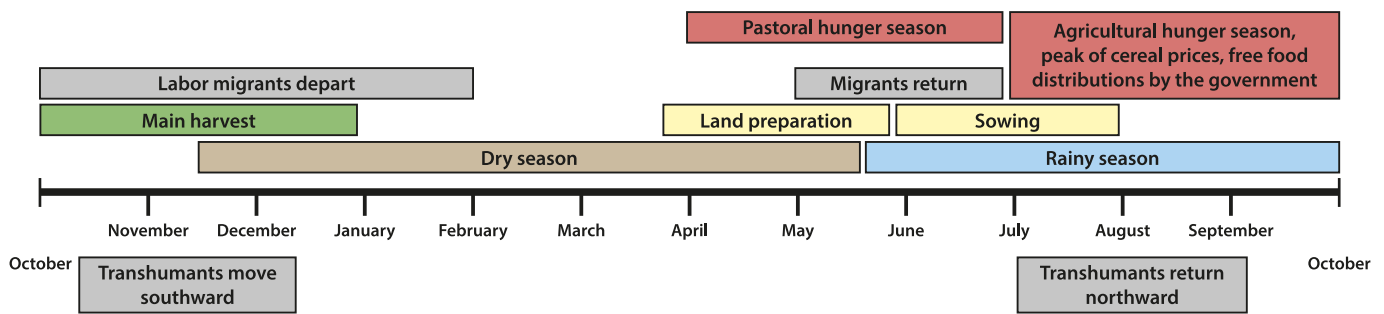
Large-scale population movements are placing further stress on already food and nutrition insecure host communities, creating competition over basic services and scarce resources. Many refugees are travelling with livestock, which cause additional pressure on scarce natural resources (grazing land and water), increase the risk of conflict between refugees and host communities and could potentially lead to the spread of animal diseases.

FAO contingency plan and response strategy

FAO is strongly committed to support the Sahel region and the people affected by the conflict in Mali. FAO has actively contributed to contingency planning exercises, both at regional and country level, under OCHA coordination, within the food security cluster and with humanitarian actors and national institutions. In response to the crisis, FAO plans to scale up interventions in favour of Malian IDPs, returnees, refugees and host populations, both in the very short term and in the medium term with the view to also address the country's more structural vulnerabilities, including through inter-community dialogue and mainly through joint programmes with United Nations and NGO partners.

The FAO component of the Mali CAP (see page 22) amounts to USD 11.8 million to support 490 000 crisis-affected persons. With the escalation of the conflict and increasing food security requirements, FAO estimates that an additional USD 10 million would be needed to assist new IDPs, returnees and host communities in Mali (350 000 people targeted) during the next 6 to 12 months .

Short term interventions aim at strengthening and protecting the food security of vulnerable populations, by complementing and reducing food assistance dependence, favouring immediate food production and protecting livelihoods. Actions will address specific needs in accordance with the existing agro-sylvo-pastoral practices, the agricultural calendar of each agro-ecological zone and adapted to the circumstances in view of the conflict. In particular, FAO will target: i) resident, returnee and displaced populations in the conflict-affected area of the north, small farmers and pastoralists or agropastoralists, by protecting animal health and production, restocking and destocking when needed (Timbuktu and Kidal) and supporting agricultural production (South Timbuktu and Gao, along the Niger river valley); ii) host populations, returnees and IDPs in the Centre (Segou, Mopti and river band areas), focusing on the 2013 main agricultural campaign or off-season when feasible, and on immediate food production in areas hosting IDPs; and iii) host populations, IDPs and other populations groups at risk of food and nutrition insecurity in the south. In addition, FAO will continue to support food security analysis and coordination through the leadership of the Food Security Cluster, together with WFP. Activities in northern Mali will depend on the establishment of a humanitarian space or a more adequate security situation.



Support to refugees and host communities in neighbouring countries (mainly Burkina Faso, Mauritania, the Niger and Senegal) will include assistance to livestock health and production since important animal movements across borders are increasing the possible spread of animal diseases, as well as the risk of conflicts between refugees and local populations due to competition over resources. This will mainly focus on the provision of veterinary multi-vitamin and mineral food supplements, vaccination campaigns, technical support for livestock management and animal health, restocking of herds through distribution of vaccinated small ruminants and poultry and destocking when appropriate.

Support to the regional coordination of the Mali crisis is also foreseen, through REOWA, which is an active member of the IASC Working Group for Emergency Preparation and Response hosting the "Mali +" working group. Main activities focus on strengthening the regional mechanisms for consultation, analysis and coordination in all aspects related to agriculture and food and nutrition security, as well as on supporting countries concerned by the crisis in the planning and preparation of the response.

FAO will also continue to play a major role in desert locust control, through close monitoring of the situation, strengthening the operational capacity and security measures of the national survey and control teams, triangulation of pesticides, provision of technical assistance and preparation for scaling up interventions, if necessary.



Funding requirements (additional to CAPs)

The estimates refer to additional needs, deriving from new population movements following the **escalation of the conflict**. Support to IDPs, refugees and their host families established in 2012, are included in FAO's components of the CAP 2013, or in the Sahel Regional Strategy 2013 for non-CAP countries. Currently, possible exacerbating factors, such as flooding or a cholera outbreak, are not considered. Estimates could change depending on the evolution of the conflict.

Country	Additional IDPs*	Targeted beneficiaries		Cost estimates (USD)
		IDPs/returnees	Host populations and resident populations in conflict areas	
Mali	300 000	150 000	200 000	10 200 000
Country	Additional refugees*	Targeted beneficiaries		Cost estimates (USD)
		Refugees	Host population	
Burkina Faso	110 000	110 00	300 000	8 300 000
Mauritania	100 000	60 000	20 000	1 000 000
Regional Coordination	n/a	n/a	n/a	600 000
Senegal	38 500	38 500	25 000	2 000 000
The Niger	55 000	32 500	-	2 500 000
Total	603 500	391 000	545 000	24 600 000

* Projections of new population movements in 2013 from "Mali +: Scenario de planification pour la crise malienne", IASC Working Group for Emergency Preparation and Response.

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