

Analysis of food and nutrition resilience (FNR) challenges in West Africa, by country and region of participating universities

Report on food and nutrition resilience policies in Mali
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAA	German Agro Action
AAG	Gao Aid Association
ACF	Action Contre la Faim
ADRA	Adventist Development Relief Agency
AMIO	Implementation Agencies
CADB	Grassroots Development Support Unit
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CMDT	Compagnie Malienne pour le Développement des Textiles
CNN	National Nutrition Council
COC	Steering and Coordination Committee
COCSSA	Comité d'Orientation et de Coordination du Système de Sécurité Alimentaire (Food Security System Orientation and Coordination Committee)
COCSSA	Comité d'Orientation et de Coordination du Système de Sécurité Alimentaire (Food Security System Orientation and Coordination Committee)
CPS	Planning and Statistics Unit
CREDD	Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development in Mali
CROCSAD	Regional, local and communal committees for guidance, coordination and monitoring of development actions
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CSA	Food Security Commission
CSPEEDA	Association of the Sahelian Center for Services, Studies, Ecodevelopment and Applied Democracy
CTIN	Comité Technique Intersectoriel de Nutrition
DCPND	National Decentralization Policy Framework Document
DSSAN	Food and Nutrition Monitoring Division
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HKI	Helen Keller International
IER	Institute of Rural Economy
LOA	Agricultural orientation law
ODD	Convention on Sustainable Development Goals
ODRS	Office de Développement Rural de Sélingué
OMA	Observatory of Agricultural Markets
OMAES	Œuvre Malienne d'Aide à l'Enfance du Sahel

MDG	Convention on the Millennium Development Goals
ON	Office du Niger
NGO	Non-governmental organizations
UN	United Nations
OPIB	Baguinéda Irrigated Perimeter Office
ORM	Office Riz Mopti
ORS	Office Riz Ségou
PAM	World Food Program
PDA	Mali's Agricultural Development Policy
PNAS	National School Food Policy
PNAT	National Spatial Planning Policy
PNE	National Livestock Policy
PNG-Mali	Mali's National Gender Policy
PNISA	National Agricultural Investment Program
PNN	National Nutrition Policy
PNPE	National Environmental Protection Policy
PNSA	National Food Security Program
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
PoLNSAN	National Food and Nutritional Security Policy-Mali
PRIA	Regional Agricultural Investment Program
PRMC	Steering and Coordination Committee for the Cereal Market Restructuring Program
PRP	Country Resilience Priorities
REACH	Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Nutrition (Partnership Initiative to Eliminate Child Hunger and Undernutrition)
RESOGEST	Réseau des Sociétés ou Offices chargés de la Gestion des Stocks nationaux de sécurité alimentaire au Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest (Network of companies or offices in charge of managing national food security stocks in the Sahel and West Africa)
SAP	Early Warning System
SDPA	Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Master Plan
SIM	Market Information System
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition (Movement to strengthen nutrition)
UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union
USJP-B	University of Juridical and Political Sciences of Bamako
YA-G-TU	Yam Giribolo Tumo "dogon" (Organization for the promotion of women)

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1. INTRODUCTION

In 2022, between 691 and 783 million people worldwide faced hunger, an increase of around 122 million compared to 2019 before the outbreak of the global pandemic (FAO, 2023). Although progress was made in Asia and Latin America in the fight against hunger between 2021 and 2022, the problem continues to worsen in West Asia, the Caribbean and all sub-regions of Africa (FAO, 2023).

However, projections for 2030 are alarming, with almost 600 million people facing chronic undernourishment. These figures would be reduced by 119 million in the absence of the pandemic and the war in Ukraine, and by 23 million if only the war in Ukraine were avoided, highlighting the major challenges to achieving the sustainable development goals of eradicating hunger, particularly in Africa (FAO, 2023).

The Sahel and West Africa region faces recurring food and nutrition crises, increasingly affecting millions of people. In 2022, the region was again hit by an unprecedented crisis affecting more than 38.3 million people in all 17 Sahel and West African countries (CILSS, 2022).

The food crisis is occurring in a regional context characterized by an exacerbation of the regional security crisis, with the most sensitive areas being the three-border loop (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger), the Lake Chad basin, north-western and central Nigeria, Mali and, increasingly, northern Benin and Côte d'Ivoire (CILSS, 2022).

Mali is a Sahelian country, landlocked and structurally vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition (Tounkara et al., 2019), with two-thirds of its surface area desert. Its economy is heavily dependent on the primary sector: agriculture, livestock breeding, fishing and forestry occupy 68.0 percent of the working population.

This sector plays a vital role in the country's economy, both in terms of growth and job creation, and in ensuring food security for the population. It employs nearly 80% of the country's workforce and accounts for around 30% of export earnings. All activities in the agricultural sector (farming, livestock breeding, fishing/fish farming, etc.) are subject to exogenous factors, mainly climatic, marked by recurrent droughts and floods (ENSAN MALI, 2022).

Nutritional and food resilience in Mali represents a major challenge in a context where numerous food security and nutrition difficulties persist. As a Sahelian country, Mali faces harsh environmental conditions, such as cyclical droughts and floods, which have a direct impact on food production and the availability of essential nutrients. These challenges, combined with factors such as poverty, armed conflict and population displacement, create an environment conducive to food insecurity and malnutrition.

Mali has signed up to a regional strategic approach aimed at achieving "Zero Hunger" by 2035, through a commitment to strengthening the resilience of its populations vulnerable to food and nutritional insecurity within the framework of the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) in the Sahel and West Africa.

Endowed with a national strategy for resilience to food and nutritional insecurity called Priorités-Résilience-Pays-Mali "(PRPM), 2020-2035, since 2020, Mali has been working to achieve "Zero Hunger" by 2035, and has thus committed to strengthening the resilience of populations vulnerable to food and nutritional insecurity within the framework of the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) in the Sahel and West Africa, a political partnership sealed in December 2012 in Ouagadougou (Strategic Plan 2020-2024).

Thus, in the context of the PRPM, the need for coordination and better control of indicators is imperative in view of the factors underpinning the production system's poor performance, including technological obsolescence, weak links between research and the production system, access to land for vulnerable groups, and so on.

This report is produced as part of the NEEMA project's activities. It sets out the conceptual framework while taking stock of the food and nutrition situation, analyzes the legal and institutional framework, and, with a view to making relevant proposals, a diagnostic assessment (SWOT) will be carried out to provide better guidance for political decision-makers and other stakeholders.

2. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK, CURRENT SITUATION AND METHODOLOGY:

2.1 The conceptual framework of food and nutrition security in Mali :

Food safety analysis is based on recognized standards and concepts. Four fundamental concepts help us to better understand the notion of food safety: availability, accessibility, utilization and stability.

Availability: This is the quantity of food available in a country or area, taking into account all forms of domestic and industrial production, as well as the balance of imports and exports, food aid and stocks.

Accessibility: This is the ability of any household to regularly acquire the necessary quantity of food through a combination of sources such as its own reserves and production, purchase, barter, donation, borrowing or food aid.

Utilization: This is how households use the food to which they have access to meet their individual protein-energy and micronutrient requirements. Food utilization takes into account elements such as food preparation, distribution of food among household members, sanitation, hygiene, variety of diet, and so on.

Stability: This is the possibility for a population, household or individual to have permanent access to adequate food without being threatened by the emergence of

sudden shocks or cyclical/seasonal events/factors. This fourth pillar integrates price and income stability for vulnerable populations. It also concerns regularity, availability and access to food security. The analysis of food security is based on that of the main indicators relating to these four pillars of food security (availability, accessibility, utilization and stability).

According to the Food Security Commission, food insecurity manifests itself in two main forms in Mali:

- ❖ Short-term food and nutritional insecurity, requiring emergency action to prevent and manage food crises;
- ❖ Structural food and nutritional insecurity, requiring the adoption and implementation of sustainable actions to combat hunger and guarantee food and nutritional security throughout the country.

The food problem is therefore a cross-cutting issue, insofar as it brings together a plurality of risk factors, spatial and temporal management scales, and a diversity of players with divergent logics, practices, discourses and representations, whose interests are antagonistic¹. This complexity is also due to the rapidly changing macro and micro contexts in which it is rooted, reducing the efficiency of inherited analytical frameworks and the effectiveness of established policies².

It is clear that the emergence and development of human rights protection has been a long political-philosophical and legal process of conceptualization, maturation, assertion, crystallization, positivization, constitutionalization, internationalization and universalization³.

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) states that "*the right to adequate food is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement*"⁴.

Food and nutritional security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to safe food of sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences, the benefits of which are enhanced by an environment in which sanitation, health services and care practices are adequate for an active and healthy life (CSA, 2024)⁵.

The main obligation lies with the State. Indeed, the Right to Food entails three State obligations: to respect existing access to food, to protect people's Right to Food by regulating the activities of non-state actors, and to effectively guarantee better access to food".

It is difficult to dissociate dignity from this right, which is why Jean Ziegler, then United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, clarified the notion of the right to food by adding the notion of **dignity**. Thus, "*the right to food is the right to have regular, permanent and free access, either directly or by means of monetary*

¹ Nientao, M, la constitutionnalisation du droit à l'alimentation au Mali, revue malienne des sciences juridiques et économiques, n°11, 2022, p. 528

² Pierre Janin, Charles-Edouard de Suremain. Food insecurity: dimensions, contexts and issues. Cambrézy L. (dir.), Petit V. (dir.). Population, mondialisation et développement : la fin des certitudes?, La Documentation française, pp.147-167, 2012, p. 2

³ Soma, A, *Droit de l'homme à l'alimentation et sécurité alimentaire en Afrique*. Geneva, Zurich, Basel: Schulthess, p. 17

⁴ V. General Comment No. 12 of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, "The right to adequate food" (Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), 20th session, May 12, 1999, Doc. E/C.12/1999/5.

⁵ Interview conducted on April 29, 2024 at the Food Safety Commission.

purchases, to quantitatively and qualitatively adequate and sufficient food corresponding to the cultural traditions of the people to which the consumer belongs, and which ensures a psychic and physical life, individual and collective, free from anxiety, satisfactory and dignified⁶ ".

Dignity is a fundamental right of direct effectiveness, the general recognition of which compromises the political basis of West African states.

Moreover, this right, closely linked to the right to life, means the protection of human existence, the recognition of their nature but not limited to simple physiological existence, but a life in dignified conditions⁷ .

It is currently estimated that almost 690 million people worldwide are hungry, or 8.9% of the world's population, or 10 million more in one year and almost 60 million in five years. The number of people affected by severe food insecurity, another measure for estimating the incidence of hunger, is also showing an upward trend.

2.2 Current state of food and nutrition security in Mali :

According to the latest FAO report, dated 2023, on the state of food security and nutrition in the world, global hunger remains at a level well above that recorded prior to the covid-19 pandemic. It is estimated that between 690 million and 783 million people worldwide suffered from hunger in 2022. That's 122 million more people than before the pandemic. Despite this, global hunger has stopped worsening over the past two years, with some 3.8 million fewer undernourished people in 2022 than in 2021. The economic recovery from the pandemic has contributed to this result, but this modest progress has undoubtedly been undermined by the rise in food and energy prices, itself amplified by the war in Ukraine. There is no room for complacency, however, as hunger continues to worsen throughout Africa, West Asia and the Caribbean⁸ .

Food security (FAO, et al., 2019) translates into physical and economic access for all citizens of a community to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, enabling them to satisfy their dietary preferences for a healthy and active life. This definition of food security refers to 4 main dimensions: the physical availability of food, economic and physical access, and the use of food, but also to the stability of the first 3 dimensions over time. Failure to satisfy any one of these conditions gives rise to a situation of food insecurity. Natural disasters and extreme poverty contribute to food and nutritional security problems in Mali.

With the support of its partners, Mali has set up and gradually consolidated its National Food and Nutritional Security Policy (PolNSAN). This policy is based on several sectoral policies and strategies adopted by the government. In order to ensure consistent and sustainable food and nutritional security for the Malian people, it is important to harmonize and harmonize all the tools adopted in the quest for food

⁶ V. Golay, C, *Droit à l'alimentation et accès à la justice*, Ed. Bruylant, p.69

⁷ López Daza, G-A, *Le droit social à l'eau et le droit à l'alimentation dans la jurisprudence de la Cour Constitutionnelle Colombienne*, *Opinión Jurídica*, Vol. 14, N° 27, 2005, p. 78, available at http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1692-25302015000100005.

⁸ FAO, *THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD, URBANIZATION, TRANSFORMATION OF AGRO-FOOD SYSTEMS AND ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD ALONG THE RURAL-URBAN CONTINUUM*, Rome, 2023, p. viii

security. This study is in response to a recommendation by the Conseil National de la Sécurité Alimentaire (CNSA) and to the conclusions of the institutional and financial audit of the National Food Security System, both of which argue for the need to equip Mali with a National Policy for Nutritional Food Security, Resilience and Social Protection, to ensure that everyone has access, at all times, to the food they need to lead a healthy and active life. From independence in 1960 to the present day, successive governments have all considered food security as a dimension of food sovereignty, and have resolutely embarked on structural adjustment measures to equip the country with the relevant policies and strategies to achieve sustainable nutritional food security and social protection. The reform of the system of governance based on the policy of decentralization/deconcentration and "regionalization", aimed at decentralizing competencies, resources and autonomy for local development planning/programming, has complemented and strengthened the food security mechanism. . Overall, it can be said that the legislative, regulatory, political and institutional governance mechanisms implemented by the Malian State and local authorities, with the support of institutional players, have progressively improved the economic basis for access to cereal supply and demand. At national level, the ongoing reform of the DNSA is creating a better-structured institutional framework, taking into account policy coherence, participation, inclusion and accountability through the introduction of evaluation of the use of resources earmarked for food security, nutrition and social protection. At sub-regional level, initiatives by ECOWAS, CILSS and UEMOA have also contributed directly or indirectly to the construction of the current DNSA architecture in Mali. Following the various findings of the diagnostic analysis, the report formulates recommendations whose implementation will make the food and nutrition security system more relevant and effective, in that they contribute to ensuring food availability and stability, facilitating food accessibility, improving food utilization, food and nutrition security governance, the political and institutional framework, and strengthening the organizational framework and the capacity of stakeholders.

Persistent insecurity has contributed to worsening food security in Mali since 2012. Food insecurity reached an all-time high in Mali in 2022, with over 1.8 million people in food crisis and worse. This acutely food-insecure population could have been estimated at over 2 million if the March 2022 Harmonized Framework analyses had taken place, given the surge in food prices the country experienced over the course of the year⁹ .

The vulnerability of populations to recurrent climatic shocks, exacerbated by conflict and extreme poverty, reduces the accessibility of households to food and nutritional security. Food insecurity affects almost 34.3% of households, and is most widespread in the Gao region with a rate of 65.5%, followed by the Mopti 51.6% and Timbuktu 44.1% regions. In these localities it is found that rural households are much more affected by food insecurity than urban households, with worrying levels of

⁹ Food Security Cluster, Stakeholder Response and Coordination Activities, ANNUAL REPORT, March 2023, available at https://fsccluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/cluster_sa_mali_rapport_annuel_2022.p

malnutrition particularly among children aged 0-5 and women (CSA, 2017). In Mali, 27% of children under 5 are stunted or chronically malnourished (too small for their age), and 10% are severely stunted. In the Segou region 28.6% of children under 5 are stunted or chronically malnourished, compared with 30.4% in Mopti, 29.5% in Timbuktu, and 33.4% in Gao.

As previously mentioned, the vulnerability of populations to recurrent climatic shocks, exacerbated by conflict and extreme poverty, reduces the accessibility of households to food and nutritional security.

However, a variety of social, economic and environmental factors affect food security in Mali.

Despite its significant agro-sylvo-pastoral and fisheries potential, potential Mali is unable to fully cover its food needs and achieve a satisfactory and sustainable level of food security (Sanogo, 2017).

Climate change and increased climate variability and extremes are affecting agricultural productivity, food production and natural resources, with repercussions for food systems and rural livelihoods (Soumaré, et al., 2020). Their effects are significant for food security, leading to decreases in food availability as a result of lower agricultural and livestock production, higher prices for agricultural products and malnutrition (IPCC, 2014).

In addition to the problem of food availability and shortages (one year out of three, according to agricultural experts), the effects of climate change often affect the "mediocre" quality of products, which are not very diversified and consist relatively of cereals and insufficient sources of proteins, micronutrients, lipids, etc. (FAO, 1999).

The results of the national food security survey (ENSAN) carried out in Mali in September 2019 show that 17.6% of households compared with 15.2% in February 2020 of Malian households are food insecure, including 1.2% compared with 1.9% in February 2020 in severe food insecurity (INSTAT, 2021). Chronic malnutrition continues to affect around 29% of children under the age of five (INSTAT, 2019). In the Mopti, Timbuktu and Gao regions, malnutrition rates (stunting and wasting) are much higher than the national rate (Tounkara et al., 2019).

The four pillars of food security are availability, access, utilization and stability. The nutritional dimension is an integral part of the concept of food security and the work of the CFS (CFS reform document, 2009).

Food insecurity in female-headed households is more than 50 percent higher than in male-headed households (INSTAT, 2018). The food consumed is not very diversified. Due to low incomes and fluctuating food prices, access to nutritious food is restricted; indeed, a nutritious diet is up to twice as expensive as a diet that only meets energy needs.

Marginalization, limited access to services and lack of prospects, combined with inter-community conflict, have contributed to the rise of non-state armed groups,

trafficking and extremism. In recent years, insecurity, previously confined to the sparsely populated north of Mali, has spread to the more densely populated center of the country¹⁰, where a significant proportion of agricultural production is concentrated. The conflict has also affected trade, both within the country and internationally.

The struggle for control of trade routes is a further source of conflict.

As a result of insecurity, population displacements are rising sharply, as are their duration. At the end of September 2019, there were 171,500 displaced people in Mali, more than half of them women, while almost 139,000 Malians have taken refuge in other countries (UNHCR, 2018). Humanitarian access remains problematic in much of central and northern Mali. Protection risks are increasing, particularly gender-based violence.

Increased insecurity, the persistence of armed violence and the intensification of inter-community conflicts remain factors deteriorating the food security of populations (FAO, 2020). These situations can lead to massive displacement of populations fleeing conflict zones, leaving behind all their productive assets, and the resulting deterioration in livelihoods (livestock, crops, sources of income, employment, reduction in economic activities, etc.) increases the vulnerability of households, particularly the poor, to food insecurity (Soumaré, et al., 2020). In addition, markets are strongly impacted by the crisis.

For some time now, the question of diet has required special attention, especially in view of the agro-climatic shocks that can impact crops and livestock, floods, locust attacks and other climate change challenges facing households.

The recurrence of these shocks, instead of strengthening people's resilience capacities, would have reinforced survival strategies such as borrowing or destocking livestock, thus leading to decapitalization for survival, which can reduce communities' resilience capacity.

- A number of points were addressed, including the current state of food insecurity in Mali.

These are :

- Adapting to climate change ;
- Promoting sustainable agriculture and soil conservation;
- Promoting climate-smart agriculture;
- Promoting gender equality
- Diversification of revenue sources ;
- Promoting nutrition education ;
- Strengthening storage and distribution systems

¹⁰ All regions in the north (Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal, Taoudéni and Ménaka) and center (Mopti, Douentza, Bandiagara) have fewer than one million inhabitants each. In the South, on the other hand, the regions with fewer than one inhabitant are : Nioro, Kita, Nara, San. Data from the Institut National de la Statistique (INSTAT) cinquième recensement général de la population et de l'habitat (RGPH5), November 2023, p. 29.

3. METHODOLOGY LITERATURE REVIEW AND FIELD DATA COLLECTION

Working sessions were organized with the team responsible for coordinating WP2 (USJP-B) and the IPR/IFRA of Katibougou. Following these meetings, working documents/interview guides were drawn up and validated in tandem. Each team conducted a literature search relating to food and nutrition security and resilience. The literature review was complemented by a qualitative survey of key actors and organizations involved in food and nutrition security. Individual interviews were conducted after identifying key players in the field. The methodology used to collect qualitative data was to draw up interview guides in successive versions, including the partner's key questions and the project's objectives.

They were :

Select and record all significant data relating to the food and nutrition situation and the legal and institutional framework;

- Consult stakeholders and partners involved in the food chain to integrate their thoughts and opinions;
- Analyze strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and constraints of food and nutrition resilience;
- Categorize, interpret and classify data.

4. THE LEGAL, POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION RESILIENCE IN MALI:

In Mali, the vision of the national policy for food and nutritional security (PoLNSAN) is based on the fact that: "*By 2030, the entire Malian population has, at all times and in all places, equitable access to a quality, balanced, sufficient and healthy diet enabling it to satisfy its energy requirements and food and nutritional preferences*"¹¹.

Food safety is intrinsically an interdisciplinary issue involving a wide range of stakeholders. Numerous players specializing in agriculture, governance, economic development, markets, nutrition, health and environmental protection, to name but a few, are actively involved in efforts to reduce food insecurity and undernutrition in Mali. All these stakeholders operate within a complex institutional and political framework - numerous policies, strategies and laws define their mandates. Some of the policies adopted by the Government of Mali (GoM) in recent years have

¹¹ Politique Nationale de Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle, PLAN D'ACTION 2019- 2028, CSA, 2019, p. 3.

represented important steps towards a coherent framework for achieving food security, while others remain inconsistent in their mandates, mechanisms and implementation.

To achieve food sovereignty and resilience¹² and nutrition¹³, the country has set itself precise objectives through a series of national public policies and has subscribed to instruments adopted at regional and international level. In short, this arsenal of tools is at once legal, political and institutional.

4.1 The legal and political framework for food and nutritional resilience

4.1.1 Regional and international policies

The Green Pact for Europe: over the years, this strategic document has become a source of inspiration for all national food and nutrition policies. Aimed at preserving the environment and biodiversity through a "farm to plate" strategy, it works globally for sustainable food based on a new action plan for the circular economy¹⁴.

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP): This is a continental framework for the African Union's Agenda 2063. Its aim is to help African countries eliminate hunger and reduce poverty by promoting agriculture-led economic growth.

The ECOWAS Agricultural Policy: adopted in 2005, it aims to ensure the development of the agricultural sector and the maximum use of all its potential in a spirit of complementarity between ecological zones, with a view to ensuring food self-sufficiency within the sub-region.

The UEMOA Agricultural Policy (PAU): adopted in 2009, it aims to make a sustainable contribution to meeting the food needs of the region's population, to the economic and social development of member states, and to reducing poverty in rural areas.

¹² For the FAO, "food security is achieved when all people, at all times and in all places, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for an active and healthy life", FAO, 2006, p. 1.

¹³ Nutrition can be defined as the science that deals with the composition of food substances and the biological phenomena by which the human organism obtains the nutrients it needs from food and uses them to sustain life, growth and development. It also covers all the processes involved in transforming and assimilating food in the body. Politique Nationale de Nutrition, Ministry of Health, p. 13.

¹⁴ EPRS | European Parliament Research Service, Plenary - December 11, 2019, p. 1

Public policy on food security in the Sahel: drawn up and implemented by CILSS, this policy aims to ensure that all Sahelians have access, at all times, to the food they need to lead a healthy life.

The Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative - Sahel and West Africa: a joint initiative of CILSS, UEMOA and ECOWAS, it aims to structurally and sustainably reduce food and nutrition vulnerability by supporting the implementation of Sahelian and West African policies.

4.1.2 National policies, plans or strategies

The Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (CREDD): This is a framework document for the design, implementation and monitoring of development policies and strategies at national and sectoral levels.

The Politique Nationale de Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle (PoLNSAN): Adopted by Decree no. 2019-0573/P-RM of July 29, 2019, it constitutes the single frame of reference for guiding all actions to promote food and nutritional security in the country. The economic and social development priorities to which it relates are defined by the Cadre Stratégique pour la Relance Economique et le Développement Durable du Mali (CREDD).

Mali's Agricultural Development Policy (PDA): The general objective of the PDA is to help make Mali an emerging country where the agricultural sector is an engine of growth for the national economy and a guarantor of food sovereignty in a sustainable development rationale, relying primarily on modern, competitive Family Farming Enterprises (FFE) and Agricultural Enterprises (AEs), as well as on representative Professional Agricultural Organizations (PAOs)¹⁵.

Agricultural Orientation Act (LOA): Adopted in 2005, it aims to promote sustainable, modern and competitive agriculture based on family farming.

Agricultural Land Policy: PFA is the logical continuation of LOA. It aims to guarantee equitable access to land for all Malian producers, men and women, as well as for other users. It promotes sustainable management of agricultural land, land security and good governance. The aim is to encourage public, community, individual and private investment to improve the performance and viability of

¹⁵ Politique de Développement Agricole du Mali (PDA), May 2013. p. 16

different forms of farming. This policy also contributes to the country's sustainable food sovereignty.

Programme national d'investissement dans le secteur agricole (PNISA): The main aim of the PNISA is to make the rural sector the driving force behind the national economy. The aim is to ensure food and nutritional security for both urban and rural populations.

National Livestock Policy (PNE): The PNE was adopted by the Council of Ministers on January 14, 2004. Through the PNE, Mali is pursuing two main objectives: improving animal feed to increase the accessibility of fodder and agricultural and agro-industrial by-products to animals, and improving animal health to ensure the protection of animal and public health through the prevention or control of major livestock and domestic poultry epizootics, and the improvement of veterinary public health (control of zoonoses, minimization of health risks linked to the consumption or handling of animal products).

Schéma Directeur de Développement de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture (SDPA): The SDPA was adopted in 2006 to promote the rational use of all the country's fisheries and aquaculture potential. It will focus on the implementation of four projects: decentralized fisheries co-management project; fisheries co-management project for the development and implementation of management plans in the Central Niger Delta sector; fisheries co-management project for the development and implementation of management plans in the Sélingué and Manantali lake areas; aquaculture development project and diversification of activities in fishing communities; and the fisheries development project in so-called secondary production areas.

La Politique Nationale de la Protection de l'Environnement (PNPE): The PNPE is the framework document for effective and sustainable environmental planning and management. In short, it is the national extension of the strategies for implementing the Rio Convention on Environment and Development.

The National Decentralization Policy Framework Document (DCPND); The DCPND was drawn up in 2017. It is based on the conclusions of the evaluation of the DCPND 2005-2014. This new DCPND reflects the Government's strong orientations in terms of strengthening decentralization: "Through reinforced decentralization, based on regionalization, put regional development at the center of

governance, growth and national solidarity, while guaranteeing respect for cultural and territorial diversities, preserving national unity and integrity¹⁶ .

La Politique Nationale de l'Aménagement du Territoire (PNAT); The PNAT was adopted by the Government at the Council of Ministers meeting of March 15, 2006. The objective of this policy is to contribute to the realization of the vision of the National Prospective Study "Mali 2025", namely *"to combine wisdom, authenticity and dynamism to make Mali a prosperous, successful and modern nation whose people will have taken a firm grasp of their own future to remain a People united in their rich diversity, turned towards a common Goal and with an unshakeable Faith in their future"*¹⁷ .

Mali's Country Resilience Priorities (PRP) (2015-2035); The PRP is a policy stemming from the sub-regional strategy aimed at achieving "zero hunger" by 2035, thereby strengthening the resilience of populations. Mali is pursuing three priorities: social protection for vulnerable households; sustainable improvement of agricultural and food productivity; and access to food for vulnerable households.

The National Nutrition Policy (PNN): The PNN was adopted by the Government in January 2013. Its general objective is to contribute to ensuring that every Malian has a satisfactory nutritional status for his/her well-being and for national development.

The National Social Protection Policy (PNPS): Its aim is to strengthen funding mechanisms, restructure coordination mechanisms and implement social protection programs aimed at strengthening resilience, food security and nutrition.

National food safety policy: Drawn up in 2002, its aim is to ensure the protection of human and animal health by controlling the sanitary quality of food. It takes into account food hygiene, safety and wholesomeness.

The National Gender Policy (PNG-Mali); The PNG-Mali was drawn up in 2009. It aims to build a democratic society and accelerate economic growth. The overall aim is to remedy food and nutritional insecurity, and to implement the ten-year health and social development program to reduce mobility and maternal mortality.

¹⁶ DCPND, Ministry of Decentralization and Local Taxation, 2017, p. 4.

¹⁷ National Spatial Planning Policy

The National School Feeding Policy (PNAS)¹⁸ : The PNAS was developed in 2009 to prevent hunger from becoming a barrier between children and education. It is designed to meet the challenges of food security and education by promoting nutrition.

The National Policy on Climate Change: By 2025, it aims to define a framework for sustainable socio-economic development that takes into account the challenges of climate change in order to improve people's well-being.

The National Plan for Response to Food Hardship: adopted in 2026, it aims to improve food and nutritional security through emergency measures and the strengthening of resilience.

The School Feeding Sustainability Strategy: adopted in 2013, it aims to increase national ownership of school feeding programs and reduce the country's dependence on external funding.

The National Response Plan to Food Difficulties: adopted in 2016, it seeks to improve food and nutritional security through emergency measures and resilience building

The National Agricultural Investment Plan 2015 - 2025: This plan identifies strategic investments in five value chains: rice, corn, millet/sorghum, inland fishing and livestock products (meat and dairy).

4.1.3 International standard-setting instruments

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, ratified in 1994 ;

The Convention on Biological Diversity ratified in 1994;

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, ratified in 1995;

The Convention on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), whose Goal 1 and Target 2 is to "eradicate extreme poverty and hunger".

¹⁸ Dr Gagny TIMBO with contributions from Mr Bécaye SANGARE, Mr Moctar Moussa, and Dr Abdoulaye MBAYE, Rapport sur analyse des politiques relatives à la sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle, et l'agriculture durable, de leurs cadres institutionnels de mise en œuvre, des budgets, des dépenses publiques et des indicateurs associés dans le cadre de la préparation d'un programme d'appui sectoriel à la sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle et à l'agriculture durable au mali, FAO, EU, 2019, pp. 32-33.

The Convention on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), whose goals 6, 8, 9 and 12 respectively aim to:

- Guarantee access to water and sanitation for all and ensure sustainable management of water resources;
- Promote sustained, shared and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;
- Build a resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization that benefits all, and encourage innovation.
- Establish sustainable consumption and production patterns.

4.1.4 National standards instruments

The Constitution of July 22, 2023, whose preamble states that Mali is committed to improving the quality of life of its people and protecting the environment; subscribes to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of December 10, 1948 and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights of June 27, 1981; and to other relevant regional and international legal instruments. Further on, Article 10 of the current Constitution states: "Education, training, work, housing, leisure, health, social protection, food and access to water are recognized rights".

The laws

- Law no. 2023-003 of March 13, 2023 determining the conditions for the free administration of local authorities;
- Law n°2023-004 of March 13, 2023 on the Code of Territorial Collectivities in the Republic of Mali,
- Ordonnance n°2016-007/P-RM du 25 février 2016 portant création du Projet de Renforcement de la Résilience à l'Insécurité Alimentaire au Mali;
- Loi n° 010-031 du 12 juillet 2010, portant création du Fonds National d'Appui à l'Agriculture ;
- Law n° 06-045 of September 5, 2006 on the Agricultural Orientation Law (LOA)
- Law N°02-006 of January 31, 2002 on the Water Code
- Law n. 02-001/AN-RM of January 16, 2002 setting the conditions for the production, processing and marketing of milk and dairy products;
- Law n° 01- 004 of February 27, 2001 on the Pastoral Charter

- Law 00-083 of December 22, 2000 ratifying Ordinance no. 00-044/PRM of September 21, 2000 governing the production, distribution, control, import and export of animal seeds, embryos and breeding stock;
- Law n°95-004 of 18-01-95 establishing the conditions for managing forest resources.
- Law No. 95-032 of March 20, 1995 establishing the conditions for fisheries management;
- Law 90-17/AN- RM of February 27, 1990 establishing the water regime in Mali.

Regulations

- Decree 2017-0260/P-RM of 13/03/2017) establishing the institutional framework for managing food and nutritional security.
- Decree n°2016-0102/P-RM of February 25, 2016 establishing the organization and operating procedures of the project to strengthen resilience to food insecurity in Mali.
- Decree n°2016-0056/P-RM setting out the procedures for drawing up, approving and implementing National Policy Documents;
- Decree n° 77/PG-RM of March 26, 1982, creating the Orientation and Coordination Committee (C.O.C) of the Cereal Market Restructuring Project (PRMC);
- Decree no. 99-034/P-RM of February 24, 1999, creating the Comité d'Orientation et de Coordination du Système de Sécurité Alimentaire (COCSSA);
- Decree No. 03-176/P-RM of April 25, 2003, establishing the institutional framework for food security management in Mali;
- Decree no. 04-385/P-RM of September 16, 2004, establishing the organization and operating procedures of the Food Safety Commission;
- Decree No. 06-321/P-RM of August 8, 2006, creating the National Food Security Program (PNSA);
- Decree No. 07-231/P-RM of July 18, 2007, establishing the institutional framework for food security management;

- Decree No. 08/095/P-RM of February 21, 2008, creating Regional, Local and Communal Committees for Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CROCSAD, CLOCSAD, CCOCSAD);
- Decree no. 2011-674/P-RM of October 10, 2011, on the organization of specific intervention measures in the event of a threat to food safety;
- Décret N°2015-0208/PM-RM 30 mars 2015 de création de la Cellule de Coordination de la Nutrition ;
- Arrêté n°02-0983/MDR-SG du 15 mai 2002 déterminant les conditions d'attribution, d'exécution et de retrait des centers de production, de diffusion de semences et d'embryons d'origine animale ;
- Décision n°0649/MDR-SG du 13 décembre 2001 portant création, organisation et modalités de fonctionnement du réseau national de surveillance épidémiologique vétérinaire au Mali ;
- Decree n° 01-219 / P-RM of May 24, 2001 Fixing the organization and operating procedures of the Direction Nationale de la Santé.

4.2. The institutional framework for food and nutritional resilience

4.2.1. Supra-national institutions

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- World Food Program (WFP)
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- The World Bank (WB)
- Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Nutrition (REACH);
- GIEWS (FAO), global information and early warning system;
- FEWS (USAID),
- Nutrition Strengthening Movement: Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- African Union (AU);
- The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD);
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);
- The Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS);
- West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU);

- Réseau des Sociétés ou Offices chargés de la Gestion des Stocks nationaux de sécurité alimentaire au Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest (RESOGEST);
- Liptako-Gourma Authority (ALG).

4.2.2. National institutions

Central structures

- The Commissioner for Food Safety ;
- The Ministry of Agriculture ;
- Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries ;
- The Ministry in charge of the Environment and Sanitation ;
- The Ministry in charge of Rural Development ;
- Ministry of Economy and Finance ;
- The Ministry of Education ;
- The Ministry of Decentralization and Territorial Collectivities ;
- Ministry of Energy and Water ;
- The Ministry of Health ;
- The Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family (MPFEF);
- The Ministry for Humanitarian Action, Solidarity and the Elderly.

Specialized technical structures

- National Directorate of Agriculture;
- La Direction Nationale de la Pêche ;
- Direction Nationale de l'Elevage ;
- Direction Générale des Eaux et Forêts ;
- Agence nationale de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments ;
- The Early Warning System (EWS);
- Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER), Office du Niger (ON);
- Compagnie Malienne pour le Développement des Textiles (CMDT);
- Observatoire des Marchés Agricoles (OMA) ;
- Cellule d'Appui au Développement à la Base (CADB);
- The Market Information System (SIM) ;
- MDR Planning and Statistics Unit (CPS/MDR);
- The Planning and Statistics Unit of the Ministry of Health.

Within this institutional framework, the Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire plays a key role. Its mission is to develop and implement national food security policy. As such, it :

- Proposes strategies, prepares and implements, in conjunction with the ministerial departments concerned, measures to ensure full coverage of the country's food needs;
- Ensures the constitution, replenishment and proper management of the national security stock and cereal banks;
- Analyzes the food prospects resulting from the agricultural season and identifies disaster or deficit areas;
- Plans, coordinates and monitors food distribution operations in disaster areas;
- Develops and implements, in conjunction with the public and private structures concerned, measures to organize grain markets and modernize food distribution channels;
- Ensures that consumers are properly informed, particularly about prices and the health and nutritional quality of foodstuffs¹⁹.

Regional and local structures

- Direction régionale de la santé, et du développement social ;
- Direction régionale de l'agriculture, de la pêche, et de l'élevage ;
- Direction régionale du commerce/consommation et de la concurrence ;
- Direction régionale des statistiques et de l'information ;
- Office régional des produits alimentaires du Mali (OPAM) ;
- Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry ;
- Civil protection;
- Agricultural Market Observatories ;
- Office Riz Mopti (ORM) and Riz Ségou (ORS);
- Office de Développement Rural de Sélingué (ODRS);
- Office du Périmètre Irrigué de Baguinéda (OPIB);
- Office Des Produits Agricoles Du Mali (OPAM);
- Grain banks ;
- Regional Council ;
- Circle Council ;

¹⁹ Article 2 of Decree no. 04-150/P-RM of May 18, 2004 on the Food Safety Commission.

- The town council ;

Concertation frameworks

- The National Nutrition Council (CNN);
- The Comité Technique Intersectoriel de Nutrition (CTIN);
- The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Mali ;
- Comité d'Orientation et de Coordination du Système de Sécurité Alimentaire (COCSSA);
- The National Food Safety Council (CNSA);
- Comité de coordination et de suivi des programmes de sécurité alimentaire (CCSPPSA) ;
- The Joint Consultative Commission (CMC) ;
- The Regional Food Safety Committee (CRSA);
- The Local Food Safety Committee (CLSA);
- The Communal Food Safety Committee (CCSA).

The main NGOs, CSOs and other development partners

- Helen Keller International (HKI),
- German Agro Action (AAA),
- Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Save the Children,
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS),
- Gao Aid Association (AAG)
- Misola Association²⁰ .
- Save the Children
- Sahel-eco
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
- Harande International Rescue Committee
- Plan Mali
- AMCP/ALIMA
- International Solidarity
- Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
- Oxfam
- Lands without borders
- Helvetas

²⁰ Improving Nutrition and Food Security for Children in Mali's Most Vulnerable Communes

5. Diagnostic Review SWOT Analysis of Food and Nutrition Resilience in Mali

5.1. Forces

Mali's constitution guarantees the right to food for all, providing a legal opportunity to strengthen food and nutritional security. It is in this context that Mali has implemented various policies, strategies and programs to improve food and nutrition security (FNS). These initiatives are designed to respond to the complex and interdependent challenges linked to SAN, such as food insecurity, malnutrition, and resilience in the face of climatic and socio-economic shocks.

Mali has adopted an integrated approach to food and nutrition resilience, involving various sectors such as agriculture, health and education. This strategy maximizes positive impacts on food and nutrition security by coordinating efforts and available resources (USAID, 2019, Ca, 2024). Institutional and legislative framework demonstrating strong government commitment:

- Existence of policies, strategies and programs (CSA, PoINSAN, PNN, PAMN, PPS, PNR, PRPM, CREDD, 2019) ...) ;
- Institutional capacity building marked by the creation of posts and councils, ... Dedicated to nutrition
- Existence of a ministry for the advancement of women with a national gender policy,
- Existence of a food security commission ;
- Existence of the Fonds d'Autonomisation pour la Femme et l'épanouissement de l'Enfant (FAFE).
- Programme de Développement de l'Agriculture Irriguée (PDAI): this program aims to increase agricultural production through irrigation. It supports the rehabilitation and construction of irrigation systems, the promotion of irrigated crops and improved water management.
- The Appui à la Résilience des Populations Rurales au Mali (PAR) program aims to strengthen the resilience of rural communities to climate shocks. It includes adaptation measures such as improving agricultural practices,

sustainable management of natural resources, and strengthening local infrastructures.

Mali has many effective community programs, such as village savings and credit associations, school canteens, and improved health infrastructure. These initiatives particularly target vulnerable populations, including women and children, and build resilience at the local level (USAID, 2019). The country benefits from significant support from the international community, including funding and technical expertise. Organizations such as USAID, WFP, FAO, and Global Affairs Canada are leading projects that are helping to improve food and nutrition security in Mali. These international partnerships are crucial to the implementation of effective resilience programs (USAID, 2019, Ca, 2024). Training and capacity-building programs are set up to improve local skills in resource management, sustainable agriculture and nutrition. This enables communities to become more self-reliant and resilient in the face of food crises.

5.2. Weaknesses

Serious deterioration in transport infrastructure; production areas sometimes inaccessible during the rainy season; very high transport costs due to red tape.

- Low level of mobilization of government and TFP budgets for gender issues
- Insufficient financial and human resources ;
- Limited access for women and girls to factors of production;
- Non-effective appropriation of interventions by the population ;
- Failure to take account of communication issues for social and behavioural change ;
- Little consideration given to agro-ecology in policies.

Ongoing armed conflict in the northern and central regions of Mali is seriously disrupting agricultural activities, markets and humanitarian aid efforts. This insecurity prevents not only access to agricultural land, but also the distribution of essential foodstuffs and agricultural inputs. Mali's heavy reliance on rain-fed agriculture makes it particularly vulnerable to climatic variations such as droughts and floods. These extreme climatic phenomena adversely affect agricultural yields, reducing food availability and increasing food insecurity. Contested governance and the lack of robust institutional frameworks hamper the effectiveness and

implementation of food and nutritional resilience programs. Insufficient coordination between different actors and sectors complicates the application of policies and strategies, limiting their positive impact. Inadequate agricultural and logistical infrastructures, such as roads, irrigation systems and storage facilities, limit producers' ability to grow and market their produce efficiently. This results in high post-harvest losses and reduced food availability on local markets. Restricted access to finance and credit for farmers and small agricultural enterprises is a major obstacle to investment in improved agricultural technologies and practices. This financial limitation prevents producers from adopting more resilient and efficient production methods. Mali faces high rates of malnutrition, particularly among children and pregnant women. Chronic and acute malnutrition remains a persistent problem, exacerbated by food insecurity, lack of dietary diversity, and limited access to health and nutrition services. The lack of technical skills and training among farmers and extension agents limits the adoption of innovative and sustainable agricultural practices. Technical capacity building is needed to improve the productivity and resilience of local food systems.

5.3. Opportunities

Presence of laws and policies in favor of food and nutrition security. Promoting non-agricultural livelihoods, such as handicrafts, services and small businesses, can reduce rural populations' dependence on rain-fed agriculture. Initiatives to develop light industries and encourage entrepreneurship can provide alternative sources of income and strengthen the economic resilience of communities. Expanding and improving social safety nets, such as cash transfer programs and access to financial services, can offer crucial support during periods of crisis. Microfinance and rural credit programs can help farmers and small entrepreneurs invest in resilient farming practices and income-generating activities. The introduction and dissemination of modern agricultural technologies, such as drip irrigation systems, improved seeds and soil conservation techniques, can increase agricultural productivity and improve resilience to climate shocks. Digitization and the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) can also improve access to information, markets and financial services. Mali can leverage partnerships with international organizations, donors and NGOs to build local capacity and mobilize additional resources for food and nutrition security programs. Initiatives such as USAID's Feed

the Future and the World Food Programme (WFP) offer opportunities for funding and technical support for sustainable development projects. The development and integration of renewable energies, such as solar and wind power, can offer sustainable solutions for rural electrification and reduce dependence on costly fossil fuels. Improving access to clean, affordable energy can stimulate agricultural and non-agricultural activities, contributing to economic and environmental resilience. Investing in education and vocational training for farmers, extension agents and community leaders can improve natural resource management and the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices.

5.4. Threats

Persistent insecurity due to armed conflict in northern and central Mali is seriously disrupting food production and distribution. The displacement of populations, the destruction of agricultural infrastructure and difficulties in accessing markets are exacerbating food and nutritional insecurity. The impacts of climate change, such as recurrent droughts, floods and rainfall variability, threaten agricultural productivity. These extreme climatic events lead to crop losses, reduce food availability and increase the vulnerability of rural communities. Rapid population growth is putting increased pressure on food and natural resources. Population growth requires higher food production, which can lead to overexploitation of agricultural land, soil degradation and loss of biodiversity. Mali's dependence on food imports exposes the country to fluctuations in world food prices. Increases in the price of imported food can make access to food more difficult for vulnerable populations and exacerbate food insecurity. Infectious disease epidemics, such as the recent COVID-19 pandemic, can disrupt food supply chains and affect food availability and accessibility. In addition, health crises increase the demand for healthcare, diverting resources from improving food and nutrition security. Mali's health and nutrition systems are often under-funded and under-resourced. This situation limits their ability to provide adequate nutrition services, treat malnutrition and respond effectively to nutritional crises. The agricultural sector suffers from a lack of public and private investment. This lack of investment hinders the adoption of modern technologies, the improvement of agricultural infrastructure and access to markets, thereby reducing food and nutritional resilience. Corruption and poor governance

weaken the effectiveness of food and nutrition security programs. Embezzlement, administrative inefficiency and lack of transparency undermine efforts to improve community resilience.

By addressing these factors, Mali can work to strengthen its food and nutrition resilience, ensuring that vulnerable populations are better equipped to face immediate and long-term challenges.

6. Conclusions and recommendations:

It is clear from these analyses that the quality of the response is not always in line with the needs of the most vulnerable. These questions also allow us to say that the strengthening and diversification of livelihood support activities must be pursued, through greater investment in agriculture and market gardening, in other livestock sub-activities (other than vaccination) and better support for IGAs to diversify incomes.

Moving towards a sustainable food system can deliver environmental, health, social and economic benefits, and set us on a sustainable path out of the crisis. Ensuring sustainable livelihoods for primary producers, whose incomes remain too low, is essential for successful recovery and transition.

- ✚ Building a food supply chain that works for consumers, producers, the climate and the environment;
- ✚ Ensuring sustainable food production in West Africa;
- ✚ Ensuring food security for all ;
- ✚ Promote sustainable food consumption and facilitate the adoption of healthy, sustainable diets;
- ✚ Reduce food loss and waste;
- ✚ Combating food fraud throughout the food ; supply chain;
- ✚ Making the transition possible;
- ✚ Improvement of production techniques, capacity building and the provision of training and ongoing information for administrative staff and managers and administrators of consumer associations;
- ✚ Capacity building (coordination, information, training and communication) between POs and their members (associations, farmers, livestock breeders, fishermen, etc.) as well as with other stakeholders (government departments, local authorities, technical and financial partners);
- ✚ Ensuring food and nutrition justiciability;
- ✚ Set up a portal including all current legislation on food and nutrition, potentially under the supervision of the CSA;
- ✚ Involve communities more in the development and implementation of food security interventions;

- ✚ Set up training programs on food and nutrition security for players involved in food and nutrition security at regional, district and community level;
- ✚ Include food and nutrition law in school and university curricula;
- ✚ Better diversification of livelihood support activities, rather than focusing largely on animal vaccination. This diversification must be accompanied by the scaling-up of activities to reach the maximum number of beneficiaries, with the necessary flexibility of funding;
- ✚ Save and preserve the lives and dignity, and guarantee minimum access to basic services (health/nutrition, WASH, education), of populations in situations of acute vulnerability (due to the combined effect of various shocks) by setting up integrated emergency assistance, in coordination with development actors;
- ✚ Ensure better coordination of efforts by players in the field by identifying areas of intervention by player, with a view to improving coverage of areas in need;
- ✚ Supporting research on food and nutrition issues ;
- ✚ Anticipate and respond to recurrent shocks by building community resilience to reduce the vulnerability of affected populations. To this end, various interventions aimed at protecting livelihoods in farming, herding, fishing, trading and artisan communities will be carried out in addition to shock mitigation activities;
- ✚ Ensure the protection of people affected by internal tensions and conflicts, whose human rights, refugee rights and rights under International Humanitarian Law (IHL) are often violated, notably by guaranteeing accountability towards these populations and their access to humanitarian aid;
- ✚ In line with the protection issues identified by the humanitarian needs analysis, interventions will need to guarantee the protection of crisis-affected communities, ensuring their access to protection services in line with the specific needs of children, men and women. Interventions should include an analysis of protection incidents and capacity-building for staff and structures (OCHA, 2019).

Strengthening institutional capacities and promoting research and development in agriculture and nutrition are also essential to meet future challenges. Implementing policy and institutional reforms to improve governance, transparency and coordination between different sectors and actors can enhance the effectiveness of food and nutrition security programs. Policies that promote sustainable agriculture, climate risk management and social protection can create an environment conducive to community resilience.

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