

EDUCATION Cluster

in MALI

Global
Education Cluster

Fact sheet - August 2012

Education in Mali Threatened by the Conflict in the North and the Nutrition and Food Crisis

In Mali, following the conflict in the North, the Ministry of Education has identified 6,895 in-school displaced students. According to the estimations from the Education Cluster, 10,000 students (in school and dropped-out after displacement) are currently displaced in South Mali. It is estimated by the Education Cluster that by the end of 2012 there will be 25,000 displaced students in the South of Mali.

Estimations show that amongst the 300,000 students in the North, only 20% are displaced to the South or are refugees in the neighboring countries. The 80% who remain in the North currently have no access to education - leaving children at risk of recruitment into armed groups.

Furthermore, at national level, children are also affected by the food and nutrition crisis. According to a joint assessment held by the Education Cluster and the Child Protection Sub-cluster, in 50% of the surveyed villages, there is a trend of school drop-outs, mainly because of the food insecurity.

Until the end of the year, the Education Cluster and its partners are focusing on a back-to-school campaign targeting conflict-affected children: displaced children in the South and children who remain in the North.



Yarba Coulibaly is 10. He likes to learn new languages and would like to become a teacher. However, his school attendance is threatened by the food crisis: 'I do not have enough to eat, and sometimes I cannot attend school.'

Needs in Terms of Education in Emergencies

School canteens: In the North, as well as in the South, school feeding is a viable strategy for improving children's enrolment, participation and completion but remains an unmet need. To date, school canteens in the North are not functional and only one host school in the South (among 503 identified by the Education Cluster) is supported by a school canteen.

Out of school displaced students: According to the Education Cluster assessment in the South, displacement of students from North to South has led to a drop out rate of 27%, mainly girls. There is a need to ensure education access to 27% of conflict affected children who dropped out after their displacement

Damage to school buildings and non-functionality of schools in the North: According to the Education Cluster rapid remote assessment in the North, following the conflict the majority of schools in the North are not functional. The majority of the schools have been damaged (damage to doors or roofs) and some of them have been occupied.

Teacher Training: According to our assessment in the South, teachers mainly need training in 'Psychosocial Support', 'Peace Education and Violence Reduction', 'Pedagogy of Large Groups, and 'Hygiene Education'.

Nutritional Crisis: It is estimated that, in 2012, 175,000 children from 6 months to 5 years old suffer from severe malnutrition and 385,000 children suffer from moderate acute malnutrition. Parents of these children need more information on the importance of basic parental care and stimulation.

Funding: To date, only 4% of the Consolidated Appeal Process has been funded. 9,3 USD million are still needed to respond to the needs. According to the evaluation on the situation and needs of displaced students and teachers, only 2% of the surveyed schools have received support from partners since March 2012.

Education Cluster in Mali Mechanisms

The Education Cluster meets every two weeks under the authority of the Ministry of Education to monitor the progress of its response plan.

Education Cluster mechanisms are the following:



The following partners have contributed to the crisis response in the Education sector:

Aga Khan Fondation, Care, Conseil de Cercle de Douentza, COREN, CRADE, Cri de Coeur, CRS, Islamic Relief, Oxfam, PAM, Plan Mali, Save the Children, UNICEF, etc.

Main Results to Date

Coordination

- The Ministry of Education, with support from the Education Cluster, coordinates the intervention of partners in terms of Education in Emergencies.

Needs assessment and monitoring

- The Education Cluster has developed **3 assessments**: one on the education situation and the needs of displaced students and teachers in the South, a joint-assessment with the Child Protection Sub Cluster on the impact of the nutritional crisis on children's education and one on the education situation and needs in the North.

- The Education Cluster has established a **monitoring system** to monitor its response plan as well as an **information-sharing portal**.

Training

- 95 education authorities and members of the Cluster have been trained in **Education in Emergencies**.
- 153 representatives from the Education authorities, NGOs and communities have been trained in **parental education to respond to the nutritional crisis**.
- 150 teachers and 25 school directors have been trained on “**Pedagogy of large groups**” and “**Remedial Education**” in the region of Segou in order to ensure quality education in host schools for the new school year and in catch-up classes.

Service delivery

- Thanks to the Ministry of Education's communication campaign, with support from Education Cluster partners, **6,895 displaced students have access to education in the South Mali**.
- **6,204 students have benefited from school kits** (for 2,902 girls and 3,302 boys). Partners have distributed 85 teachers' kits and 89 recreation kits.
- Education Cluster partners have ensured the functioning of **1,046 schools canteens in the South of Mali** since the beginning of the food crisis.

More information

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