



# USAID | MALI

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### USAID Provides Flood Assistance to Mali

**BAMAKO, Mali.** – Today (**October???**), the U.S. Government, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission in Mali, and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) /Mali have signed a Grant Agreement, providing \$50,000 (approximately CFA 23,000,000) for assistance to flood victims. CRS will use the grant resources to rehabilitate schools, decontaminate school toilets and latrines and distribute food to host families in Bla and Béléko areas in Mali that are sheltering displaced persons formerly living in schools as well as school supplies and furniture for their affected school-aged children. The assistance is in response to a request for assistance from the Government of Mali through the Office of Civil Protection following recent flooding across the country. CRS contributed \$19,520, bringing the total flood assistance to \$ 69,520 (CFA 31,979,200).

This funding is designed to assist with relief and recovery in the flood-affected regions of Ségou and Koulikoro. The USAID Mali personnel is monitoring the situation and coordinating action with the Office of Civil Protection in Mali, CRS/Mali and Caritas staff who are implementing the program on the ground, as well as local authorities.

Heavy rainfalls since July have caused flooding across Mali, particularly in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Ségou, Mopti, Sikasso, and Gao. They affected over 9,700 people and destroyed 1,826 houses in the towns of Bla, Mamou and Nangola in Ségou region and Béléko in Koulikoro region. The floods also caused the collapse of more than 4,800 houses as well as damaged roads, washed away bridges, destroyed crops and livestock across the country. Displaced families sought shelter in schools for several weeks, causing Malian Government officials to postpone the start of the school year countrywide. The flood assistance package in Bla and Béléko areas under the USAID funding will incorporate cereal distribution to approximately 600 host families as a way of replenishing their depleted food stock and 600 affected families as well as school supplies to 2,600 school-aged children.



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Moreover, 44 classrooms in the eight schools that hosted flood-struck families will be cleaned while school latrines and toilets will be thoroughly disinfected.

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The USAID Mali Mission continues to work with the central government representatives and local authorities as well as implementing agencies and other UN relief agencies like the UNICEF and the World Food Program, to ensure that U.S. emergency assistance is delivered to those most affected by the floods and meets their most pressing and urgent needs.

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