



# DISASTER CASE REPORT

Agency for  
International  
Development

Washington D.C.  
20523

## MALI - Floods FY 1989

<b>Date:</b> August 1989	
<b>Location:</b> Several areas in Mali, including the cities of Douentza, Sikasso, Kayes, Bandiagara, Kolondieba, and Nara	
<b>No. Dead:</b> 1	
<b>No. Affected:</b> At least 14,635	
<b>Summary of Assistance:</b>	
U.S. Government	\$25,000
U.S. Voluntary Agencies	Not reported
International Community	None reported
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,780</b>

affected population of Douentza: 55 MT of cereals donated by the Comite de Developpment of Mopti and 7 MT of cereals donated by Secama (associated with the Catholic Church of Mali).

### Assistance Provided by the U.S. Government

On Aug. 25, U.S. Ambassador Robert Pringle determined that the floods in Mali constituted a disaster warranting a USG response. The \$25,000 he authorized for disaster assistance was used to purchase and distribute rice and millet, chlorine for water treatment, disinfectant, blankets, and medicine.

A convoy of CARE trucks carrying the USG-donated supplies left Mali's capital of Bamako on Sept. 13. USAID/Bamako staff accompanied the convoy and met with the Crisis Committee in Nara on Sept 14 to determine where the aid was to be distributed. Four communities--Nara, Goumbou, Mourdiah, and Demba Salla--received a total of 400 blankets, 18 MT of millet, and 13 MT of rice from this distribution. Some 300 liters of chlorine, 150 liters of disinfectant, and two crates of medicine were turned over to area doctors to distribute as needed in affected villages. An additional 20 MT of millet were delivered to the flood victims in the four communities later in the month. USAID staff monitored distributions and visited victims in Demba Salla and Nara after distributions had been completed. A total of 253 families (or some 2,000 people) benefited from the commodities.

### The Disaster

A late and erratic rainy season in Mali in 1989 delayed planting and threatened to reduce agricultural production. In mid-August, however, the rains became excessive in scattered regions, causing serious flooding. An estimated 2,685 houses were destroyed; livestock were killed and grain stores were damaged. All houses in the village of Goumbou were reportedly lost, as mud huts turned to liquid and disappeared. The floods left at least one person dead and over 14,000 people in need of emergency assistance.

### Action Taken by the Government of the Republic of Mali (GRM) and Non-Governmental Organizations

The GRM Ministry of Territorial Affairs and Development coordinated disaster relief. On Aug. 25, Minister Ongoiba called a meeting of donor representatives to issue a request for assistance to flood victims. Needed supplies included tents, blankets, rice and other cereals, and medicine.

A nine-member disaster relief committee was set up on Aug. 29 and met once a week, with its chairperson reporting to the Minister of Territorial Affairs. The following domestic donations were reported for the

TOTAL \$25,000

### Assistance Provided by U.S. Voluntary Agencies

CARE - lent its vehicles to the Mali disaster relief committee and to transport USG-donated goods to 4 communities in the Nara *cercle* (district).

WVRD - provided 1,090 blankets, 8 MT of millet, 5 MT of rice, and medicine.

### Assistance Provided by the International Community

None reported