

## Update Report – Estimated IDP population in Mali October 2012

### Overview

The Commission on Population Movement has collected the most updated information available on the IDP population in Mali from various sources, including direct assessment and estimations. A lack of resources and info-sharing continue to hinder the ability to generate accurate data on the dynamic trends of population movements throughout Mali. The overall IDP population in Mali currently stands at a high estimation of 203,843 persons, with an estimated 30,470 households, which is an increase from the previous report released in September 2012.

However, there are various factors that should be taken into account when looking at the increased figure, namely:

1. The collection of more comprehensive figures, not previously available, from various actors that had conducted assessments in the northern regions of Tombouctou, Gao and Kidal for food assistance.
2. Recent monitoring activities that were carried out by IOM in October in Bamako that reveal a significant increase in the number of IDPs that were tracked in June and July - from 12,000 to 46,000 individuals.
3. At the same time, it is anticipated that the overall number **may** be at the high end of the scale due to the lack of updated figures in regions not yet covered by comprehensive assessment activities, particularly for Mopti where data collected on the steady IDP movements in that region by the *Comité de Crise* is not updated on a regular basis, and Segou (see below for details).
4. The continuous and extremely fluid movements of the internally displaced within Mali make it challenging, unless appropriate resources are allocated, to capture precise information on the various displacement patterns. The threat of imminent military action exacerbating the insecurity environment, the deteriorating human rights situation, and the loss of livelihoods and lack of access to basic services, the back and forth of certain displaced between areas of displacement and origin, as well as the general lack of assistance to IDPs, seem to be the main causes behind the fluidity in movements.
5. The largely intra-regional displacement pattern in northern regions, from one town or village to another, as residents flee areas of violence or lack of economic opportunities resulting from the violence situation to areas nearby their community of origin. This could be due to lack of money to move further down south or to stay close by their property and/or possessions.

Internally displaced persons are "persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognised State border."

(Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Introduction, para. 2)

## Regional Updates

Updated figures for **Bamako** collected by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in October 2012 show an increase in the IDP population reported as compared to previous estimates from July 2012. At the same time, it should be noted that the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of data collection included IDPs from bordering neighborhoods, including Kalaban Coro and Niamana. Preliminary results show that a total of 46,448 individuals and 6,255 IDP households were assessed between the 21<sup>st</sup> of September and the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, 2012 as part of the Tracking & Monitoring System project. The results indicate an average household size of 7.4 members. Data processing is ongoing and a full report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of data collection will be made available in November 2012. The final figures are likely to change slightly as a result of the data processing procedures.

Figures received from the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Solidarity and the Elderly (MAHSPA) for **Mopti** and **Segou** indicate a slight increase in the IDP populations in these regions. As of the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2012, the MAHSPA has reported 41,239 individuals in Mopti (39,830 in Sept '12) and 19,285 individuals in Segou (16,890 in Sept '12). In addition, the MAHSPA has released figures collected from **Koulikoro** region, with a total of 3,357 individuals reported as displaced. It should however be noted that the figures for these regions are cumulative figures of IDP households reported since the MAHSPA began compiling data via the crisis committees in displacement areas. As such, it is likely that the figures indicate a higher number of IDPs than the actual number of IDPs currently residing in these regions as the figures have not accounted for the IDP households that have since moved out of the region. See below for details of efforts to update the figures for these regions.

The population estimate for **Gao** region reflects data from ACTED and IOM / Temedt from June and July/August 2012 respectively. An assessment by ACTED in the areas of Menaka, Anderamboukane, Inekar, Alata and Tidermene in June 2010 found 19,386 displaced individuals in these locations, while an assessment conducted by IOM via its local organization partner, Temedt, reported an estimated 6,591 individuals in the locations of Gao town, Bamba and Labézanga. As a result of difficulties in access, as well as limited human and financial resources, the coverage of Gao region has not been comprehensive. Additionally, information is not yet available to determine an up to date population estimate for this region.

Figures for Tombouctou have been compiled using results of assessments conducted by Islamic Relief, Handicap International and Africare. It should be acknowledged that the assessments were conducted during differing time periods, beginning with Handicap International's assessment in July 2012, Africa during August and September 2012, and Islamic Relief is ongoing. However, with challenges in access and resources, regular monitoring in this area remains difficult. These assessments have differing coverage and are the most up to date information available at this time in Tombouctou. The details of the coverage are indicated in the attached table.

Finally, the population estimates for **Kidal**, **Kayes**, and **Sikasso** regions have been provided by the World Food Programme (WFP) and their partner agencies. The Norwegian Church Aid has reported an estimated displaced population in Kidal region of 34,763 individuals. Additionally, the ADR has provided figures for Kayes region, with 2,760 IDPs, while World Vision International has assessed 8,250 IDPs in Sikasso region. The geographical coverage of the data collection is not specified.

## Average Household Size

At this time there is no indication of the household size in the regions outside of Bamako, therefore the average household size has been calculated using 6.5 members per household. The average household size was determined in accordance with the results of the National Statistical Institute of Mali 2009 Census and has been agreed by members of the Commission on Population Movement. The calculation of the average household size can be revised when a larger sample size is available to determine the figure.



### **Methodology**

The methodologies utilized to collect data on the displaced population vary by source. While the Commission on Population Movement has endorsed a common methodology and tool as part of the Tracking & Monitoring System, due to a lack of resources, the roll-out of this system country wide has not been possible as of yet. The recent assessment by IOM in Bamako utilized the agreed Tracking & Monitoring System methodology and there are plans to expand the use of the commonly agreed methodology to other regions (see Way Forward). For now, the Commission on Population Movement is liaising with various partners to compile and cross-reference available data so as to provide a country-wide estimate of the displaced population.

### **Way Forward**

A profiling exercise by UNHCR and Intersos in Mopti is planned to begin in October 2012, with results expected in December 2012.

In addition, IOM has secured additional funding to facilitate the roll out its Tracking and Monitoring System project to other regions of Mali. Segou has been prioritized for immediate roll out, to be followed by Kayes, Sikasso and Koulikoro. IOM will continue to collaborate with agencies working in these regions, as well as the MAHSPA and the DPC. Additionally, IOM will work with agencies present in the three northern regions of Tombouctou, Kidal and Gao in a collaborative effort to ensure enhanced coverage of the northern regions with the aim of receiving up to date information.

Finally, the Commission on Population Movement will continue to take all efforts to compile the most comprehensive data available by collecting information from partners, specifically those who are conducting programmatic assessments in areas not easily accessible and/or not covered by the Tracking and Monitoring System. All efforts to avoid duplication and assessment fatigue will be taken.

Please see the Table of estimated IDPs in Mali as of October 2012 below.

COMMISSION ON POPULATION MOVEMENT						
Estimated number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Mali						
October 2012						
Region	# Households	# Individuals	Average household size <sup>1</sup>	%	Source	Date
Bamako	6 255	46 448	7,4	23%	OIM <sup>2</sup>	08/10/2012
Gao	3 996	25 977	6,5	13%	ACTED & OIM <sup>3</sup>	06/2012 & 07-08/2012
Kayes	425	2 760	6,5	1%	PAM / ADR	N/A
Kidal	5 348	34 763	6,5	17%	PAM / NCA	N/A
Koulikoro	516	3 357	6,5	2%	MAH <sup>4</sup>	01/10/2012
Mopti	6 344	41 239	6,5	20%	MAH <sup>5</sup>	01/10/2012
Ségou	2 967	19 285	6,5	9%	MAH <sup>6</sup>	01/10/2012
Sikasso	1 269	8 250	6,5	4%	PAM / WVI	N/A
Tombouctou	3 348	21 764	6,5	11%	Islamic Relief; <sup>7</sup> Handicap Int'l; Africare	ongoing 07/2012 08-09/2012
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30 470</b>	<b>203 843</b>		<b>100%</b>		

<sup>1</sup> The average household size of 6.5 was used for regions where specific data on household size was not available. The determination of 6.5 as the average household size was agreed by the Commission on Population Movement in accordance with the results of the Institut National de la Statistique 2009 Mali Census.

<sup>2</sup> IOM conducted the second round of data collection in Bamako as part of its Tracking & Monitoring System project during the 21st September - 03 October, 2012. The data collection comprises a number of IDPs from bordering quarters, including Koloban Coro and Niamana. The data processing is ongoing, including data cleaning, and a full report of the results will be released by the beginning of November, 2012. The figures are anticipated to change slightly as a result of the data cleaning process.

<sup>3</sup> Figures for Gao have been calculated using ACTED figures for Menaka, Anderamboukane, Inekar, Alata and Tidermene from June 2012 and IOM figures for Gao town, Bamba and Labézanga from July-August 2012. Figures from other locations are not

<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Solidarity and the Elderly.

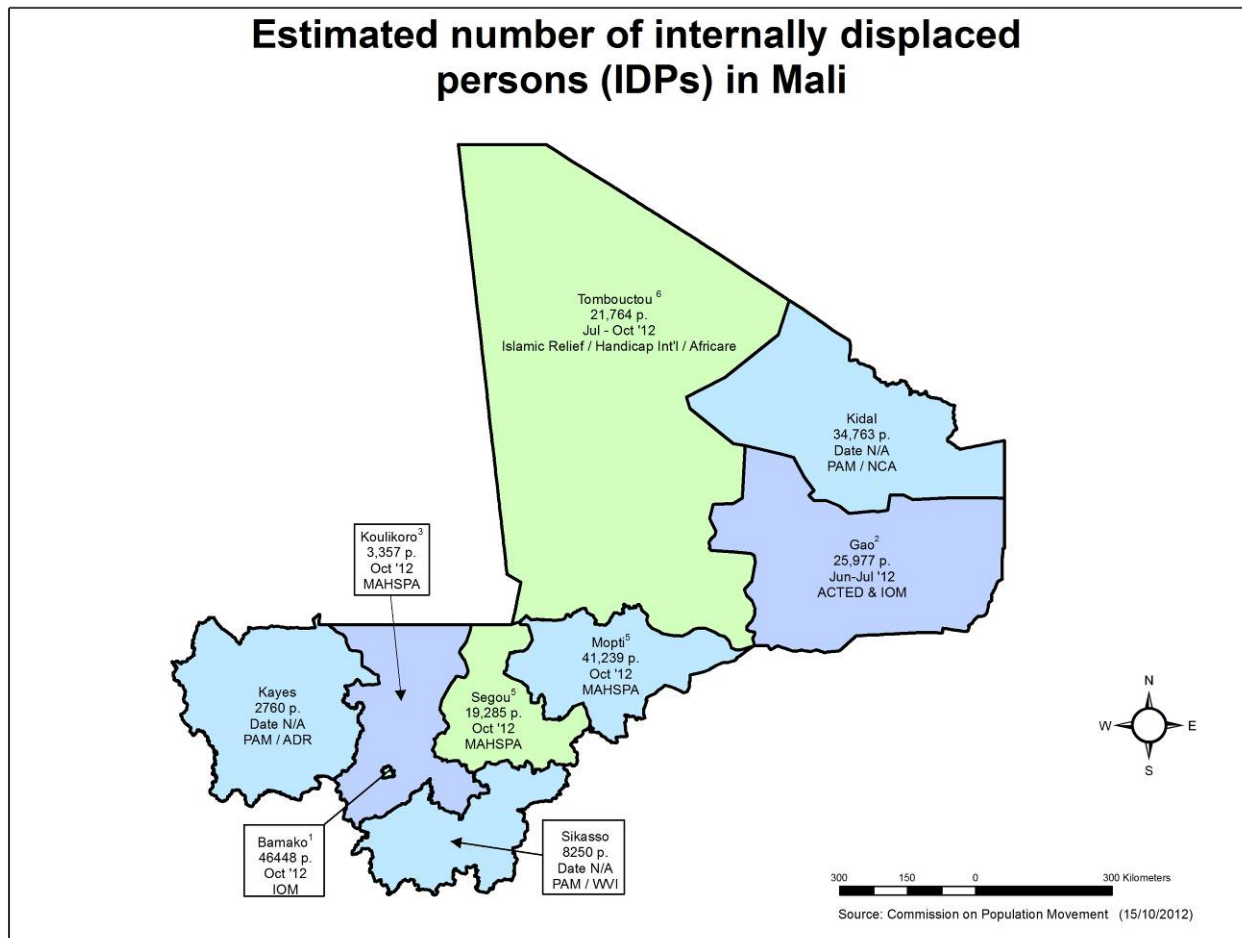
<sup>5</sup> The figures for Mopti are cumulative figures and do not take into account potential movement of assessed IDP households out of the region. As such, it is likely that the total figure of IDP households currently residing in Mopti region is lower than reported. UNHCR and Intersos will begin a Profiling exercise of the IDP population in Mopti in October, with results expected in December 2012.

<sup>6</sup> The figures for Segou are cumulative figures, as in Mopti. IOM will establish the Tracking & Monitoring system in Segou region beginning in October 2012 in collaboration with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Solidarity and the Elderly (MAH) and the Department of Civil Protection.

<sup>7</sup> In July 2012, Handicap International conducted an assessment in the Communes of Tombouctou, Lafia, Bourem Inaly, Hamzakoma, Séréré, Rharous, and Banikane. Africare, during August and September 2012, conducted an IDP assessment in Goundam in the communes of Goundam, Douékiré, Doukouria, Tele and Kaneye, Tombouctou's rural commune of Alafia, and Nianfunke's rural commune of Soboundou. Islamic Relief's assessment covers the communes of Bambara Maoude, Inadiatafane, Haribomo, Ouinerdène et Gossi (Cercle de Gourma Rharous, Région de Tombouctou) and is ongoing.



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