COREM — USAID Community Resilience in Mali/Mopti Project

The USAID Mali Community Resilience Project (COREM) (2017-2019) known in French as Convergence pour la Résilience au Mali/ Mopti is part of the Feed the Future Catalyzing Partnerships for Scale project (2014-2019),[1] and supports the USAID Mali Resilience Portfolio.

COREM's key objectives are to

Improve coordination between implementing partners and mission staff

Promote communication and coordination among stakeholders and the USAID Mopti Resilience Platform

Provide support to the USAID/Mali Resilience Coordinator

Provide general administrative support to the Mali mission and Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS) for Mali

The chronically vulnerable region of Mopti struggles with poverty, malnutrition, and food insecurity while facing the challenges of climate change, conflict, and instability. To improve the collective impact of resilience investments in Mopti's complex development environment, COREM uses the SCALE+[2] systems methodology that applies a systems lens to the USAID Resilience Platform's communication and coordination, builds social capital among stakeholders, and facilitates locally-driven development for sustainability.

Key COREM Accomplishments

Think Systems

MALI
MOPTI

➔ **Paradigm Shift 1 – The system is "owned" by stakeholders in multiple sectors**

→ In October 2017, over 90 participants attended the Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS)/ Whole-System-in-the-Room workshop from the private sector, research and academic institutions, U.S. government and other donors, implementing partners, civil society, regional/ local government, and national government.

➔ **Paradigm Shift 2 – Stakeholders identify common goals**

→ GFSS workshop participants established common ground and identified nine high priority goals and areas to focus resilience work and nine action plans to achieve these goals.

➔ **Paradigm Shift 3 – Focus on building social capital among stakeholders**

→ Mopti Resilience Platform members committed to carry actions forward though relationship building and attendance at bi-monthly meetings, frequent communication with COREM, and engagement with COREM's coordination of synergy activities.
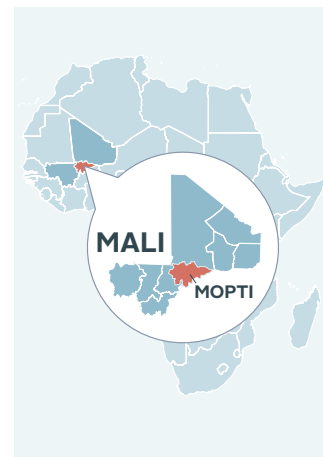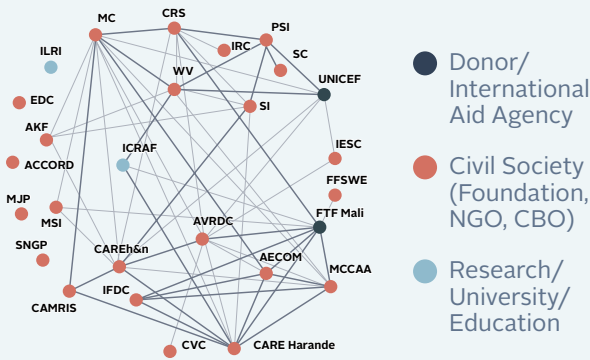
FIGURE 1: Organizational Network Analysis (ONA) of Mali Resilience Stakeholders

Legend:
- Donor/ International Aid Agency
- Civil Society (Foundation, NGO, CBO)
- Research/ University/ Education

Map the System

→ **Formed a Cross-Sector Advisory Committee with eight members** from the agricultural, health, and private sectors and included national government as well as implementing partners and research institutes. Committee members advised on stakeholder mapping and participant selection for the GFSS workshop.

→ **Mapped 117 national organizations and 27 Mopti organizations using Organizational Network Analysis (ONA).** COREM grew the resilience stakeholder network from 10-15 organizations in Mopti to 117 organizations across the country (see Figure 1).

Integrate the System

→ **Organized and facilitated** nine bi-monthly resilience coordination meetings in Mopti with 143 total participants and 20 percent participation rate for female participants.

→ **Organized and facilitated** four Resilience Stakeholder Workshops/Meetings with over 272 participants:

  → Resilience and Collaboration Workshop for USAID Implementing Partners (September 2017)

  → Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS)/ Whole-System-in-the-Room workshop: "Toward Eliminating Hunger, Malnutrition, and Poverty in Mali" (October 2017)

  → USAID and Mopti Resilience Platform Partners Workshop (June 2018)

  → Security Collaboration and Coordination Meeting for USAID and Mopti Resilience Partners, to discuss security challenges for implementers and how to better coordinate efforts to ensure safety for staff and beneficiaries (September 2018)

Transform the System

→ Created synergies among USAID Mopti Resilience Platform members that resulted in 20 joint activities (see Figure 2 on page 4 for COREM Synergy Activity Timeline) between resilience implementing partners with 624 total participants

→ Produced and distributed 10 informational newsletters for the USAID Mopti Resilience Platform and reached over 75 readers with resilience lessons learned, good practices, success stories, and member profiles.

→ Led thought leadership on Gender and Resilience:

  → Presented COREM's Gender and Resilience work on a panel entitled "Resilience for All? Working Towards Inclusive & Equitable Resilience Programs and Measurement" at the Resilience Measurement, Evidence and Learning Conference (RMEL) Conference in New Orleans (November 2018)

  → Facilitated Gender Roundtable discussions during the COREM workshop in Bamako (June 2018)

  → Presented on women's leadership at bimonthly Mopti Resilience Platform meetings

  → Collected data on gender and measurement from Mopti Resilience Platform partners

➡ Created and facilitated a WhatsApp Community of Practice (CoP) for the USAID Mopti Resilience Platform that had 135 interactions between February and August 2019 among 38 participants. Shared resources included security updates, links to the COREM newsletter, video interviews, and photos of advocacy events and joint activities.

➡ Created a sustainable online repository for Mopti Resilience Platform members to share and upload resources. The repository uses free open source technology that can be edited by any Platform member. There are currently 559 resources in the repository.

TABLE 1: USAID Mopti Resilience Platform

Project Sector	Number of Projects (23 total)	Projects Names/Implementers (24 total implementers)
Agriculture/Food Security	10	• Finance for Food Security and Women Entrepreneurs program (FFSWE)/International Executive Services Corps • Harande implemented by CARE/Save the Children, Sahel Eco, & Yak Tu • Bringing agroforestry to scale for improved livelihoods in Harande resilience zones/World Agroforestry Centre • Livestock for Growth Program (L4G)/AECOM • Feed the Future Mali Livestock Technology Scaling Program (FTF/MLTSP)/International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) • Fertilizer Deep Placement Micro-Dosing (FDP-MD)/International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) • Cereal Value Chains (CVC) /ACDI VOCA • Mali Climate Change Adaptation Activity (MCCAA)/Chemonics • Scaling-Up Climate-Smart Agroforestry Technologies in Mali (SmAT-Scaling)/World Agroforestry Centre • Africa Rising's Large-Scale Diffusion of Technologies for Sorghum and Millet Systems (ARDT-SMS)/Catholic Relief Services (CRS) & Aga Khan Foundation (AKF)
Education	2	• Girls' Leadership and Empowerment Through Education (GLEE)/Winrock • Activité d'Appui à l'Education En Situation d'Urgence (USAID-EESA)/CAMRIS
Governance/Conflict	4	• Mali Sub-National Governance Program (SNGP)/Tetra Tech • Agence de Développement Régional (ADR) of Mopti • The Mali Peacebuilding, Stabilization and Reconciliation project/ Creative Associates • Civic Engagement Program (CEP)/FHI 360
Health/Nutrition/WASH	7	• Mali Horticulture Scaling Project (AVRDC)/World Vegetable Center • Keneya Jemu Kan (KJK)/Palladium, MSI, John Hopkins University • Nutrition Hygiene Projet (NHP)/CARE • Global Health Supply Chain – Procurement and Supply Management (GHSC-PSM)/Chemonics • Human Resources for Health in 2030 (HRH2030)/Chemonics International • Assainissement Total Piloté par la Communauté (ATPC) et Fin de la Défécation à l'Air Libre en Bandiagara (FDAL)/UNICEF • World Food Program (WFP)/United Nations

FIGURE 2: COREM Synergy Activity Timeline

TIMEFRAME	KEY HIGHLIGHTS		SUPPORT PROVIDED	COLLABORATIVE PARTNER(S)
MAR–DEC 2017	**3** Trainings & Meetings	**16** Participants	Trainings on good household nutrition practices for farmer organizations in collaboration with NHP, ILRI, Harande, and L4G	NHP, ILRI, Harande, and L4G
			Training for trainers for farmers organizations on fundraising for water supply points	NHP, Harande, and L4G
			Training for small producers in PPU intensive rice system	NHP, IFDC, Harande
JAN–APR 2018	**1** Advocacy Event **4** Trainings & Meetings	**16** Participants	Two trainings on soil and water conservation and protection	NHP, IFDC, MCCAA, Worldveg, L4G, CRS, Harande, CVC
			ALPHA producer training	NHP, MCCAA, and CVC
			Supported African Vaccination Week and the campaign against measles in Mopti	JKJ, GSC-PSM, Harande
			Quarterly stakeholder meeting on essential medications management	GHSC-PSM, HRH2O3O, KJK, and CRS
MAY–AUG 2018	**2** Trainings & Meetings	**21** Participants	Training on Striga control and elimination	MCCAA, IFDC, Harande, NHP, CRS, and AKF
			Outreach for a workshop on access to credit for businesses and individuals	IESC, L4G, CVC, AKF, IFDC, Harande, CRS, Nutrition Hygiène, MCCAA
			Training of farming organizations on business development and water access points.	Harande, Care, and KJK
SEP–DEC 2018	**4** Advocacy Event **5** Trainings & Meetings **141** Participants		World Handwashing Day	HRH 2O3O, KJK, NHP, and Harande
			L4G field agent training event on the basics of climate change	MCCAA and L4G
			Supported Session II of the Local Elected Leadership workshop	SNGP, MCAA, L4G, IESC, GHS-PSC, HRH2O3O, CRS, and Harande
			Two cooking demonstrations of Baobab and Moringa leaves	L4G, CRS, WORDLVEG, MCCAA, HARANDE, CARE NUTRITION, and WFP
			Training on a Social Behavioral Change communication tool box	NHP, GHS, MCCAA, Harande, L4G, and IESC
			Supported the Regional Council on its 2019 preliminary draft budget development	SNGP/ADR and Harande
			Development of the simplified Process of Elaboration of the Program for Development-Economic, Social, and Cultural (PDSEC) guide in collaboration with	SNGP, ADR, and Harande
			Assisted in organizing messaging workshop for WASH and nutrition	JKJ, PNH, Harande, and HRH2O3O
JAN–APR 2019	**1** Advocacy Event **1** Trainings & Meetings	**5** Participants	Studies on agricultural market opportunities for Mali's administrative regions	SNGP, ADR, and Harande
			Training on crop planting method without watering (PLASA)	MCCAA, L4G, CRS, ICRAF, IRD /WYL, and Harande
MAY–SEP 2019	**1** Workshop **1** Trainings & Meetings	**425** Participants	Training for focal points and facilitators for System of Rice Intensification (SRI)	MCCAA, World Veg, and L4G
			Workshop on local government budgeting transparency for communities in Bandiagara (attended by 411 participants including 121 women)	PEC, Harande, and NHP

1. For more information please visit our website: https://www.fhi360.org/projects/feed-future-catalyzing-partnerships-scale
2. System-wide Collaborative Action for Livelihoods and Environment (SCALE+) is a systems methodology developed by FHI 36O in conjunction with USAID in the 199Os. For more information please visit our website: http://scaleplus.fhi36O.org/index.html
3. ONA of Mopti Resilience Stakeholders: Organizations are represented as nodes (circles) and relationship are represented by edges (lines). The thickness of the line indicates the strength of the relationship (thicker=stronger).