

Mali – Complex Emergency

ETC Situation Report #29

Reporting period 26/11/13 to 25/12/13

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Highlights

- ETC Mali operations will be extended into 2014 provided necessary funding is received.

Cluster Responsibilities

- WFP is leading ETC activities in Mali with responsibility for coordination, implementation and overall operation support for common ICT services.

Achievements

- The ETC continues to provide security telecommunications services in Bamako, Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu, and data services in Mopti, Timbuktu and Gao, to approximately 12 UN agencies and 21 NGOs.

Challenges and Gaps

- The ETC budget for 2014 is approximately US\$2.3million. To continue provision of services in each location, full funding is required.
- The security situation in northern Mali remains unstable and deployment of UN staff is restricted. Kidal is still a no-go zone for UN personnel and staff numbers in Mopti, Timbuktu and Gao are also limited.
- A shortage of qualified radio operators means that COMCENs in Mopti, Timbuktu and Gao are not operating 24/7.
- All UN personnel must complete the SSAFE training course before deploying to the north of Mali. If courses do not coincide with the arrival of staff, their deployment to northern areas will be delayed.
- Access to sufficient power is posing challenges for ETC members in Timbuktu and Gao.



Planned Activities

- The Bamako COMCEN will be moved once additional staff have arrived in country.
- ETC Mali activities will be extended into 2014. This will likely involve continued support in current locations, trainings and potential deployment to additional locations.

Meetings

Global ETC teleconference

The next Global ETC teleconference on Mali will be held:

Tuesday 7th January, 2014:

0900 New York

1400 UTC

1400 Bamako

1500 Rome/Geneva

1800 Dubai

Acronyms

COMCEN	Communications Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
HF	High Frequency
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
MINUSMA	Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
UNDSS	United Nations for Safety and Security
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
VHF	Very High Frequency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	UN World Food Programme

All information related to ETC operations in Mali can be found at: www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact:

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