

# Local Government Capacity Programme

LGCP | Country programme 2012-2016

## > Mali



<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>Restore a climate of peace and stability at the local level</u>
<u>TARGET GROUP</u>	<u>The local government association AMM and the local governments in Mali</u>
<u>INTENDED RESULT</u>	<u>A capable Malian Association that supports the needs of its members and their citizens in the fields of peace and security, basic service provision and health</u>
<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>Coaching, training, organisation of reconciliation debates and studies</u>

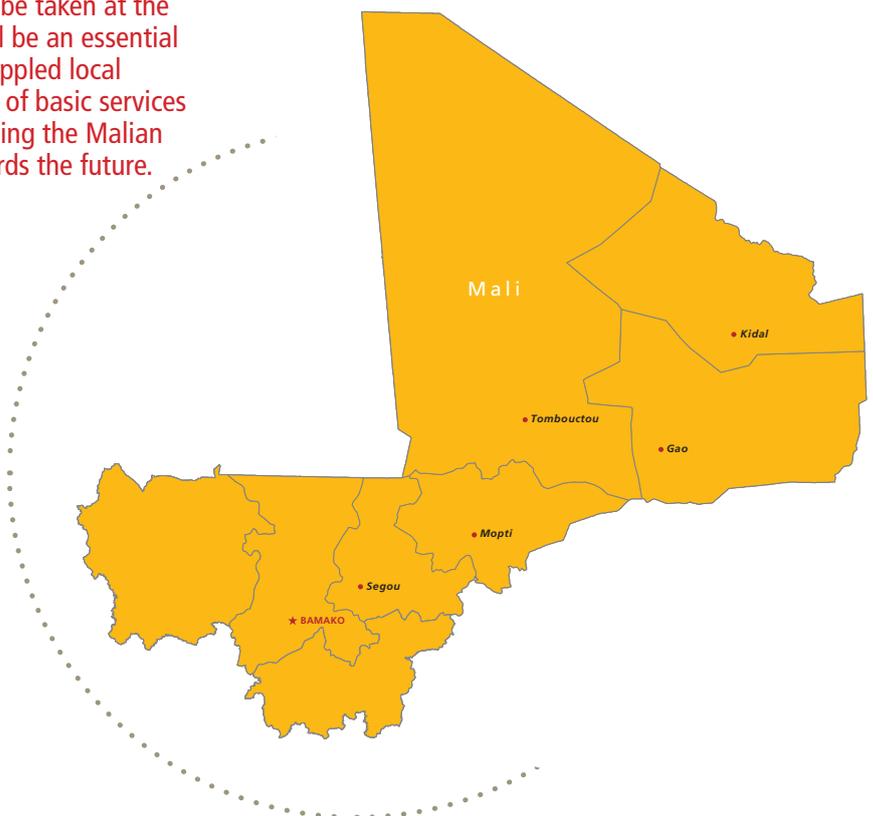
Malian citizens are still struggling with the disastrous effects of the Touareg/Jihadist rebellion and the subsequent further deterioration of the Malian state. The quick occupation of the Gao, Tombouctou and Kidal regions and the subsequent coupe d'état by captain Sanogo in Bamako both illustrated the weak national government structures in general and the effects of de facto absent state control in the now war affected regions. These events destroyed the last bits of trust in government that had been on the decline for years and which needs significant investment to be restored in the years to come. The first steps have to be taken at the local level. Reconciliation will be an essential prerequisite for restoring crippled local economies and the provision of basic services to all and a start towards giving the Malian population perspective towards the future.

- The LGCP Mali programme aligns with other Dutch, Spanish and French cooperation implemented by the AMM, focussing on supporting the restoration of peace and security and the provision of needs based basic services in the in the war affected regions. •

### STIMULATING ENVIRONMENT

This programme is implemented with the Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM). The AMM will continue to play its crucial role voicing the specific local needs to the national government and restoring faith between the population and its government at the most fundamental level – the communes themselves. LGCP will therefore also focus on strengthening the capacities of the AMM to do so in the fields of lobby and advocacy on behalf of and service delivery to its members, and general Association management challenges.

# Mali



## Background

Mali in recent years has gone through very difficult times and is only very recently starting to recover from a regional war that destabilised and eventually overthrew an already weakened central government. The levels of security, the trust among different ethnic groups and the quality of service provision at the local level as a consequence deteriorated to a point of non-existent which will require significant support in the future. The French led military intervention "Serval" heralded the first step towards stability and peace as most of the insurgents have been chased out of the main cities, although the Northern regions remain highly unstable. The democratic election of IBK in 2013 has marked a significant civil follow-up, followed by parliamentary elections later that year and local election by the end of 2014. The state of affairs however remains fragile and significant support has to accompany the current international military presence, coordinated by the UN mission Minusma to ensure follow up on these first positive steps.

## Aim

The aim of the LGCP Mali program is to directly contribute to the improvement of peace and stability in Mali in general and the war affected regions in particular. LGCP aims to improve local service provision and restore faith in local institutions at citizens level. LGCP aims to have AMM capacitated staff that effectively lobby for the needs of their Association members, implement relevant support programmes and provide needs-based services.

## Activities

LGCP experts will provide coaching to their Association counterparts in the fields of lobby and advocacy and service provision and general Association management challenges. LGCP supports the implementation of feasibility studies into communal policing and base studies into the implementation of reconciliation debates. LGCP will provide technical assistance in the drafting of the reconciliation instruments and will support the transfer of the results of the reconciliation debates into actual local safety plans. LGCP will provide training to locally elected officials strengthening them in taking on their responsibilities in the field of local peace and security.

## → What do we want to achieve?

- **Reduced risk on interethnic violence through the organisation of reconciliation debates at commune and cercle level in the affected areas.**
- **Enhanced capacities to provide for safety and security at the local level through the training of elected commune and cercle officials and the development and implementation of communal police on the basis of sound needs analysis and feasibility studies.**
- **Enhanced capacity of the AMM to link local needs to national policy development through effective lobby and advocacy, supporting the further decentralization of Mali.**
- **Enhanced capacity of the AMM to provide its members with services that enhance their capacities to in the field of service provision to their citizens, with a specific aim on basic needs such as health, security and peace.**