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MALI CLIMATE SERVICES PARTNERSHIP

MINIMIZING RISK

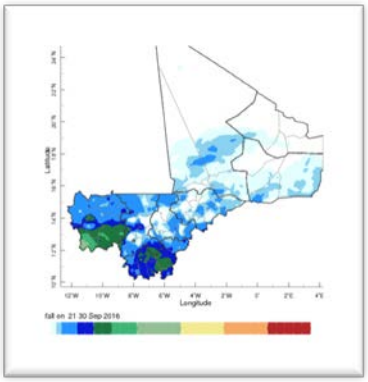
USAID/Mali understands that global climate change impacts have profound development implications, especially in Mali, where over 80 percent of the population relies at least partially on agriculture. Like much of the Sahel, Mali suffers from frequent droughts and significant variability in annual rainfall, which make it difficult for farmers to know when and what to plant. Availability of and access to accurate and reliable climate information is critical to farmers' ability to adopt climate risk management approaches that minimize risk and promote resilience.

Mali Météo's agrometeorological program provides weather/climate information products that can help farmers better manage their crops and understand the changing agricultural landscape. Nevertheless, the increasing variability presents an ever-growing challenge, which is why the USAID/Mali - IRI Climate Services Partnership project (March 2015 –December 2016) was designed to strengthen *Mali Météo*'s climate data and forecasting capabilities and to improve the use of the climate information it provides.

MALI CLIMATE SERVICES PARTNERSHIP GOALS

Over $500,000, 18-month (2015-2016), project cycle, the Partnership will:

- Improve availability and quality of Mali's historical climate data using ENACTS (Enhancing National Climate Services) suitable for national and sub-national decision-making;
- Improve intra-seasonal to inter-annual predictions for agricultural advantages;
- Build the capacity of *Mali-Météo* to continue to provide high quality climate services and to explore options for providing climate information to the public and private sectors in Mali.



Sample Mali Meteo ENACTS satellite image

PROMOTING RESILIENCE

When improved forecasts are used in conjunction with local rainfall data and a detailed cropping calendar developed by the Government of Mali, farmers have access to information to make climate smart agricultural decisions for increased crop yields. This improves economic opportunities and food security for a more resilient society in the face of vulnerability to climate change and unpredictable shocks related climate variability.