WFP in Niger: operation overview

Context

Niger is a landlocked and food-deficit Sahel country. More than 2 million people in the Niger are chronically food-insecure, 4.5 million are at risk of food insecurity, and millions more are affected by transitory food insecurity during the lean season. 42.2% of children under five are chronically malnourished, with a global acute malnutrition rate of the 6-59 months old of 10.3%. Gender disparities, very high population growth, environmental degradation and cyclical shocks persist and continue to strongly challenge the country’s development.

The World Food Program (WFP) in Niger has been responding to the needs of poor men, women, girls and boys since 1968. At present, our work aims to alleviate hunger in Niger, supporting Government’s and communities’ resilience building and emergency preparedness and response efforts. In line with the 2030 Agenda, with a special attention on SDG 2 and 17, WFP’s operation in Niger is articulated around three main intervention axes:

Resilience building

WFP’s aim is to strengthen the resilience of systems, communities and individuals, working with multiple partners and using an integrated, multisector and geographically concentrated approach. This approach applies participatory seasonal planning. Bridging humanitarian and development programming, the operation is organized around three pillars:
- deliver of an integrated resilience assistance package;
- national capacity development, and
- development of strategic partnership.

Emergency preparedness and response

WFP has put a strong focus on responding to the Lake Chad crisis, providing an immediate and urgent response to the food and nutrition needs of displaced, refugee and host community households. WFP also continues to provide support to the regional emergency operation catering to the needs of the Malian refugees, but is moving towards a progressive self-reliance strategy. In light of the frequent recurrence of crises, the organization also invests in emergency preparedness and self-reliance strategies.

Operations Support services

The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) continues to support humanitarian activities in Niger and the sub-regions by providing safe, efficient and cost-effective air transportation, and guarantees medical and security evacuations as necessary. When required, WFP also provides other operational services, amongst others premises services for UN agencies.

Who we are

WFP is present throughout the country, with its main office in Niamey, 5 suboffices (Tahoua, Zinder, Diffa, Maradi and Niamey) and 2 antennas (Agadez and Ouallam). A total of 242 staff (27 International and 215 national) help WFP to achieve its objectives.

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