



WFP Niger Country Brief

APRIL 2018

In Numbers

5,256 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 635,971 cash-based transfers made

USD 47 m six months (May-October 2018) net funding requirements, representing 48% of total*

*funding requirements include all three projects

518,884 people assisted

In APRIL 2018

Operational Context

Niger is a land-locked and food-deficit Sahelian country with a population of over 21 million people and an annual demographic growth of 3.9 percent, one of the highest in the world. According to the national vulnerability analysis, food insecurity affects 2.6 million people, of which nearly 500,000 are severely food insecure (EVIAM 2017). Acute malnutrition rates remain above the WHO serious threshold, and stunting rates remain critical. Food and nutrition insecurity are driven by poverty, environmental degradation and cyclical shocks, which negatively affect livelihoods. The economy is largely reliant on the climate sensitive agricultural sector, with 90 percent of Niger's poor living in rural areas. In addition, persisting regional volatility and security issues add to national fragility.

The Government has put resilience building and social protection at the core of its development agenda, highlighting the importance of a multi-sectoral integrated approach, for example the national Nigeriens nourish Nigeriens (3N). Food and nutrition insecurity remains one of the major development challenges. Work is ongoing to ensure alignment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda. WFP's intervention is placed within this framework, especially the SDG 2 "Zero Hunger". WFP has been in Niger since 1968.



Population: **21.5 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **187 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower**

Chronic malnutrition: **42.2% of children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

- In April, WFP provided food support to displaced and host populations in Tiloa and Inatès (Tillabéry region). This assistance complements the assistance provided by the Food Crisis Coordination Unit (*cellule de coordination des crises alimentaires*) with household rations; through these operations, WFP distributed 19.7 mt of food to 9,703 people including 759 children aged 6-23 months.
- As part of the Sahel Shock Response WFP is planning a geographical extension of its intervention areas and an expansion of activities through partnerships with the ECHO Alliance and USAID Rise NGOs to cover 38 percent of the needs of the 2018 National Response Plan. This would bring the initial target for the 2018 lean season food assistance to some 600,000 beneficiaries, corresponding to a coverage of 49 communes out of the 164 vulnerable communes identified. Overall, through its various activities, including nutrition and assistance to Malian refugees, WFP plans to provide assistance to some 944,000 people during the lean season in Niger (June to August).
- WFP provided meteorological equipment (100 rain gauges, 11 computers, 3 GPS, 40 telephones, mats, benches, supplies) worth USD 60,000 to the *Conseil National de l'environnement pour un Développement Durable* (CNEDD) to the Early Warning and Emergency Response Community Structures (SCAP-RU), the Vulnerability Monitoring Observatories, the sub-regional committees and the regional Permanent Secretariats and the National Environment Council for Sustainable Development. This will ensure the proper functioning of the CNEDD, Early Warning System and weather forecast, for an efficient implementation of early warning systems.
- Three training sessions for partners and WFP staff on nutrition sensitive activities took place in April in the regions of Zinder, Tahoua and Agadez. The objective of these training sessions was not only to familiarize WFP staff and partners with WFP's nutrition interventions, but also to develop their capacity to make all interventions more nutrition-sensitive.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Katia Oslansky

Caption: Thanks to FFA activities of the RBA partners, communities in Dankoulbé, Zinder, are not only restoring ponds, but also creating sources of water for crops and vegetable gardens.

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	Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) *
Strengthening resilience in Niger through an integrated multi-sector and multi-partner safety net approach			
PRRO 200961 (Jan 2017 – Dec 2019)	420.1 m	126.7 m (30%)	41.7 m
Providing life-saving support to directly affected by insecurity in northern Nigeria			
Regional EMOP 200777 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2018)	184m	122.5 m (66.6%)	4 m
Provision of humanitarian air services in Niger			
SO 200792: (Jan 2015 - Dec 2018)	32.4 m	25.9 m (75%)	1.3 m

* May – Oct 2018

GENDER MARKER



Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping

WFP participated in the food, pastoral and nutritional situation reassessment meeting held from 23 to 26 April in Dosso. The objectives of this meeting were to share the situation of pre-lean season 2018 response operations and the level of resource mobilization in favour of the 2018 Response Plan, and to reassess the situation of vulnerable areas, villages and populations identified in December 2017. During the meeting, 164 moderately or extremely vulnerable communes were identified/classified.

Resilience

Community-based Participatory Planning

In April, the implementation of the Community-based Participatory Planning (CBPP) was increasingly implemented and nine CBPPs were completed in just one month. This brings the total number of CBPPs completed to 76, including 26 in 2014, 23 in 2017 and 27 from January to April 2018. Among the CBPPs carried out in 2018, there are four CBPPs in surrounding areas of Malian refugee camps.

Seasonal Livelihood Programming

A preparatory mission for seasonal livelihood programming was carried out on 20 April by the WFP and the High Commission to the Initiative of the Nigeriens Nourished the Nigeriens (HC3N) in Dosso and in the municipality of Falwel (Dosso region), which was selected as pilot for the communal consultation activity focused on the updating of the Seasonal Livelihood Programming and the financing of the action plans of the CBPP.

Rome-based Agencies (RBA) Project

Food assistance for assets (FFA) activities that started in February in the region of Maradi and Zinder, continued throughout the month of April. FAO, IFAD and WFP partners have identified two sample commune (Dan Goulbi, Maradi, and Bandé, Zinder) that will be monitored to compare the effects of the RBA interventions. Targeting of sample households is underway.

Education

- From 22 to 28 April, WFP participated in the Global Action Week for Education (GAW), which focused on the theme of accountability towards the SDG4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all) and citizen participation. To this end, the Trade Unions Associations and NGOs Education Campaign for All Niger coalition (ASO-EPT) and the Civil Society Organization Framework for active dialogue in Education have implemented several advocacy/lobbying activities in favour of free quality education in Niger and school meals.
- The official launch of the advocacy campaign on school meals in Niger took place on 26 April and a speech was delivered by WFP to mobilize stakeholders in favour of a law on school meals.

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