



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Niger Country Brief December 2018



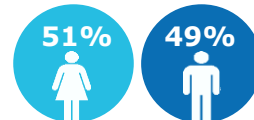
## In Numbers

5,340 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 366,658 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 60 m six months (January-June 2019) net funding requirements, representing 22% of total

738,000 people assisted in December 2018



## Operational Updates

- In December, WFP reached about 738,000 people with food and nutrition assistance, of which 32 percent received assistance through cash-based transfers, while around 31,300 mothers and 117,200 children (of which 97,300 aged 6-23 months) received treatment and preventive nutrition assistance. More than 324,300 men, women and children received food under WFP's livelihoods programmes.
- WFP organised a celebration to mark 50 years of cooperation with the Nigerien Government (1968-2008) to overcome hunger and malnutrition. In collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development and Rural Development, a photo exhibition was organized to trace back activities throughout five decades of multilateral food and nutrition assistance.
- WFP participated in the scientific and cultural week from 17-21 December, organized by Abdou Moumouni University in Niamey. As part of the partnership with the University, the photo exhibition from the 50 years celebration was exhibited at the Faculty of Agronomy, followed by a speech of the WFP Country Director.
- The WFP Executive Board approved Niger's Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) 2019. The T-ICSP will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 and 17 by aiming to achieve six strategic outcomes. During its implementation period (1 year), the T-ICSP will target nearly 2.1 million people, 51 percent of whom are women and girls.
- Emergencies** - The security situation in north Tillaberi (Mali border) and south-west (Burkina Faso border) remains a cause for concern. Military operations have been conducted in north Tillaberi and the Torodi area. Following clashes in the Tahoua region, WFP assisted 2,338 newly displaced people in Tillia commune. In Diffa, the Government feared a worsening of the security situation with the beginning of the dry season as low water levels of the Komadougou river make this natural border to Nigeria's Borno State more porous. By late December a large-scale pre-emptive military operation had been launched by the Government.

## 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, the highest in Africa.

The latest national survey (*Cadre Harmonisé* 2018) estimates that 0.6 million people were food insecure (33,000 at emergency level) in the last quarter of 2018 and that figures may rise to 1.22 million (55,000 at emergency level) in the coming lean season. Acute malnutrition rates of children remain at 14 percent, above the WHO emergency threshold, and stunting rates at 48 percent (SMART Survey 2018).

Food and nutrition insecurity are driven by poverty, demographic growth, environmental degradation and cyclical shocks which negatively affect livelihoods. In addition, persisting regional volatility and security issues cause migration and spontaneous displacements.

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, spearheaded by the national Nigeriens nourish Nigeriens initiative (I3N). Food and nutrition insecurity remain the major development challenges. WFP's intervention is placed within this framework, especially the SDG 2 "Zero Hunger".

WFP has been present in Niger since 1968.



Population: 21.5 million

2018 Human Development Index: 189 out of 189

Income Level: Low

Chronic malnutrition: 42,2% of children between 6-59 months

### Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Arno Trümper

Caption: FFA activities – Dosso Region

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## Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>266 m</b>	<b>63,3 m</b>	<b>60,7*m</b>

\* January to June 2019

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected populations, including refugees and IDPs, in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activity 1:** Provide assistance to crisis-affected populations, including refugees and IDPs, through food assistance (unconditional and conditional), emergency school meals and specialized nutritious food to children for malnutrition prevention.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food insecure school-age children, in targeted regions have access to adequate and nutritious food all year-round.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activity 2:** Provide school meals to vulnerable children during the school year, in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding).

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable groups including children, pregnant women and adolescent girls in targeted areas have enhanced nutritional status all year-round.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activity 3:** Provide malnutrition treatment and prevention (including SBCC and food fortification) services to children aged 6-23 months and pregnant women, and cash grants to adolescent girls

### Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Food insecure populations and communities exposed to climate shocks in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems all year-round

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activity 4:** Provide livelihood support to food insecure and at-risk people, including the development or rehabilitation of natural and productive assets (FFA), climate risk management measures, local purchases, through an integrated community-based approach.

**Activity 5:** Provide seasonal food/CBT assistance to food insecure populations

### Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

**Strategic Outcome 5:** National institutions have strengthened capacities to manage food-security, nutrition, and social protection policies and programmes by 2030.

**Focus area:** resilience building

**Activity 6:** Provide capacity strengthening to inter-sectorial national institutions on: (i) planning, (ii) coordination mechanisms, (iii) policy coherence, and (iv) knowledge management.

### Strategic Result 8: Global partnership

**Strategic Outcome 6:** National institutions have s: Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services to access and operate in targeted areas throughout the year

**Activity 7:** Provide UNHAS flight services to partners, to access areas humanitarian interventions.

**Activity 8:** Provide logistics services to partners, to address problems of accessibility when delivering humanitarian access

- **School Feeding** - A total of 682 primary school girls in Dingazi and Tondikiwindi communes received cash for the first school term (October-December) as part of the strategy to support vulnerable adolescent girls.
- In December, 1,116 WFP-supported canteen schools provided meals to 142,596 children across Niger. At the same time, WFP has continued to strengthen advocacy for the funding of canteen schools outside priority areas.
- **Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping** - The market situation analysis (cereals and livestock) shows a generally satisfactory market supply situation outside of markets in areas where a state of emergency has been declared (Diffa, north Tahoua, north Tillaberi) and stable prices for the main agricultural products.
- Supplies remain relatively precarious in the markets of the far north of the country (Agadez, Tillaberi and Tahoua) due to their isolation and road conditions.
- **Nutrition** - The final report of the study *Cost of Hunger in Africa: Case of Niger* showed that Niger's economy is losing USD 539 million, or more than 7 percent of its annual GDP, as a result of under-nutrition that causes losses each year, affecting health costs and education system, and reducing labour productivity. The report was presented on 10 December following an official ceremony attended by the Minister of State, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, the representative of the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

## Challenges

- UNHAS' first helicopter rotations in Niger were planned to begin in December in order to implement emergency activities at the Malian border but lengthy administrative processes and low demand by the humanitarian community have delayed the beginning of the operation. Meanwhile, WFP's security unit identified several safe landing areas and worked out the security details.
- The state of emergency was declared in the departments of Say, Torodi and Tera since 30 November as a result of a deterioration of the security situation along the border with Burkina Faso. WFP and its partners are monitoring the situation.
- WFP is facing resources constraints and may need to downscale school feeding activities if no funding is received over the next weeks.

## Donors

Belgium, Canada, China, ECHO, DEVCO, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Monaco, Multilateral, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, UN CERF, United States of America.