



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Niger Country Brief January 2020



Operational Context

Niger is a land-locked and food-deficit Sahelian country with a population of over 23.2 million people and an annual demographic growth of 3.9 percent, the highest in Africa. The latest food security analysis (*Cadre Harmonisé*) projected 1.9 million people to be food insecure during the upcoming lean season (Jun-Aug 2020).

Food and nutrition insecurity are driven by poverty, environmental degradation, and recurring shocks. In addition, the deteriorating security situation on the border with Mali, Burkina Faso, and Nigeria is causing large population displacements.

WFP's emergency response assists refugees, IDPs and host communities in Diffa, Tillabéri, Tahoua, and Maradi. In areas of chronic food insecurity, WFP supports resilience with an integrated package of assistance in cooperation with the Government.

WFP has been present in Niger since 1968.



Income Level: **Low**

2018 Human Development Index: **189 out of 189**

Acute malnutrition: **10.7% of children between 6-59 months**

Chronic malnutrition: **47.8% of children between 6-59 months**

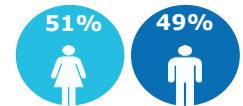
In Numbers

6,789 mt of food assistance distributed in December

US\$ 1.92m cash-based transfers made in December

580,434 people assisted in December

US\$ 78m six months net funding requirements (Feb - Jul 2020)



Strategic Updates

- Access restrictions imposed on humanitarian organizations continue to create operational challenges. In January, beneficiaries in the Tillabéri region were the most affected. Access restriction and military escorts imposed by the Government prevented WFP from reaching 12,500 Malian refugees and host community members in Abala in January. Unless access is restored, an additional 121,000 people are likely to be affected from February onwards. WFP will strive to prevent a disruption of food and nutrition assistance in cooperation with local partners, adopting a low-profile approach.
- WFP increased its efforts to raise global awareness of humanitarian needs in the Sahel. WFP's Country Director Sory Ouane interviewed with French TV broadcasters "France24" and "TV5" on 20 January, thereby placing a focus on the worsening security situation in the Liptako-Gourma region (border area with Mali and Burkina Faso). The interview can be accessed [here](#). Mr Ouane also reached out to a US audience with a podcast, prepared with WFP USA. The WFP Country Director highlighted how violent conflicts significantly increased vulnerabilities and that the outlook for the upcoming lean season (June to August 2020) was worrying.
- The country office invited international donor representatives to a briefing on WFP's main achievements in 2019 and challenges to expect in 2020, stressing that the results of the latest food and nutrition insecurity assessment (Nov 2019 *Cadre Harmonisé*) called for an increase of the 2020 budget for emergency operations.
- Country Director Sory Ouane attended WFP's Global Management meeting 2020 which took place in London. The key topic discussed included WFP's approach to take into account environmental issues.
- WFP, FAO and IFAD (the Rome-based Agencies - RBA) are developing a joint pluriannual RBA action plan to scale-up joint RBA programming and optimize interventions.

Contact info: niger.information@wfp.org
Country Director: Sory OUANE
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/niger
Main Photo: Credit: WFP/Communication
Caption: Millet processing in Zinder.

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
217.2 m	52 m	78 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis affected populations, including refugees, IDPs host communities and returnees in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of a crisis

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide an integrated food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations (refugees, IDPs, host communities and returnees)

Strategic Outcome 2: School-aged girls and boys including adolescents in targeted food insecure and pastoral regions have access to adequate and nutritious food during the school year.

Activities:

- Provide an integrated school feeding package to boys, girls and adolescents 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: Nutritionally vulnerable populations including children 6-59 months, pregnant women and girls, adolescent girls, in targeted areas have improved nutritional status by 2024

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Support national nutrition programme through provision of preventive and curative nutrition services (including SBCC, local food fortification, complementary feeding and capacity strengthening) to targeted populations.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 4: Food insecure populations and communities including those affected by climate shocks, in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods integrated into sustainable food systems to ensure access to adequate and nutritious food by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide livelihood support to food insecure and at-risk men, women, boys and girls, including the development or rehabilitation of natural and productive assets (FFA), climate risk management measures, and value chains.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: National institutions and other partners have strengthened capacities to design and manage integrated gender-responsive food security, nutrition and shock-responsive social protection policies and programmes by 2024

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide capacity strengthening to national, decentralised institutions and partners on: (i) coherent and gender-transformative intersectoral policies; (ii) planning, (iii) coordination mechanisms, (iv) ownership and programme implementation, and (v) knowledge management.

Strategic Result 8: Global partnership

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian and development partners in Niger have access to common services and expertise to access and operate in targeted areas until appropriate and sustainable alternatives are available

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide UNHAS flight services to partners, to access areas of humanitarian interventions.
- Provide logistics, ITC and coordination services to partners in absence of alternative to ensure humanitarian assistance as well as other supply chain services and expertise on demand.

Crisis Response

- The withdrawal of security forces from military bases at the Malian border, following an attack in Chinégodar, Tillabéri region, triggered population movements away fleeing the insecure areas.
- Assistance to new IDPs is coordinated by all rapid response mechanism (RRM) partners: WFP will assist 900 new arrivals in Ayérou and 500 in Ouallam while partners are assisting new arrivals in Banibangou.
- The worsening security situation affected Malian refugees from hosting areas close to the Malian border. By end of January, refugees left Tabareybarey and Mangaizé to be relocated to urbanized areas in Ayérou and Ouallam, respectively. Refugees from Intikane will be relocated to Taksenass, a site identified by the Government. Refugees from Abala stayed in the area despite a lack of assistance from WFP due to the access constraints. WFP assisted relocated refugees in urbanized areas. In Ouallam, distributions were launched in presence of UNHCR High Commissioner Filippo Grandi and will assess the possibility of introducing cash-based assistance.

Integrated Resilience-building Package

- A high-level USAID/FFP delegation, led by the Chief of the Technical, Learning and Planning Division, joined by the USAID Director of the Centre for Resilience and the Director for South, West and Central Africa as well as Regional and Country Directors, visited WFP's Maradi resilience and emergency sites. The mission exchanged with local communities to understand the impact of WFP's resilience-building activities carried out in close collaboration with RBA and other UN agencies, RISE II partners, NGOs and government technical services.
- In line with the humanitarian-development nexus, WFP, together with other UN agencies, NGOs, local authorities, Nigerian refugees and host communities of Garin Kaka, conducted a Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP). Garin Kaka is one of two relocation villages for Nigerian refugees arriving in Southern Maradi as from mid-2019 and the CBPP is a first step to implement long-term solutions.
- Targeting of beneficiaries is underway in new resilience-building sites, as well as programming of priority activities for sites that started implementing the package in 2019. Meanwhile, WFP is gradually scaling down food assistance in sites that were assisted for several years, focusing on capacity strengthening of communes, local partners, technical services and beneficiaries to ensure sustainability of results.

Food Security Cluster

- In January, the National Food Crisis Management System (DNP-GCA) together with the Ministry of Agriculture presented the projected humanitarian needs for 2020 and discussed humanitarian planning with food security partners, ahead of publication of the national response plan.

UNHAS

- In January, UNHAS Niger and UNHAS Mali facilitated the transport of UNHCR High Commissioner Filippo Grandi between Bamako and Niamey.

Donors

Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Luxembourg, Monaco, Niger, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, UN Central Emergency Response Fund, United States of America.