



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Niger Country Brief October 2025

## In Numbers

529,357 people assisted in October\*

125 mt of food distributed\*

US\$ 453,194 of cash-based transfers made\*

US\$ 68.4 million six-month net funding requirement  
(Nov 25 – Apr 26)

\*Preliminary figures



### Operational Context

Niger is a vast, landlocked country located in the heart of the Sahel region in West Africa. Despite an abundance of natural resources, the country is ranked the fourth least developed country globally (Human Development Index, 2022). Chronic vulnerabilities persist due to a variety of compounding factors, including rapid demographic growth, an underdeveloped economy and a lack of access to basic services and infrastructure. The country's fragility has been amplified in recent years due to the convergence of conflict, climate and socio-economic shocks. Extreme gender inequalities further exacerbate vulnerabilities.

According to the November 2024 Cadre Harmonisé, 2.2 million people were projected to face severe food insecurity during the 2025 lean season (June - August). Forty-seven percent of children under 5 years of age in Niger are chronically **malnourished and over 12.2 percent are acutely malnourished** (above the 10 percent alert threshold set by WHO). This represents 1.5 million children suffering from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 0.4 million suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). More than 50 percent of children under five suffer from at least one form of malnutrition.

The main drivers of food insecurity in Niger include the combined effects of the spillover of **conflict** from neighbouring countries - leading to an increase in insecurity and forced displacement - **climate shocks** (such as drought and floods) and **high food prices**. These pre-existing and complex humanitarian needs were compounded by the socio-economic impact of the 2023 **political crisis**, the subsequent sanctions and suspension of external assistance from several bilateral partners to Niger.

WFP has been present in Niger since 1968 and is currently implementing its activities under the 2020-2026 Country Strategic Plan. WFP provides emergency assistance to crisis-affected communities including refugees, internally displaced persons, and host communities. Simultaneously, through an integrated package of resilience-building activities, WFP supports communities to promote healthy food systems by revitalizing their ecosystems, enhancing livelihoods opportunities, and strengthening access to basic services (education and nutrition). This approach, increasingly being rolled-out in fragile areas, reduces humanitarian needs and contributes to strengthening social cohesion.



2024 HDI report: **Ranked 189<sup>th</sup> out of 193**

Chronic malnutrition: **47% of children aged 6 - 59 months**

Population: **27 million**

Income level: **Low income**

### Strategic Updates

**Celebration of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations:** WFP participated in Niger's celebrations for the United Nation's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Events, including high-level dialogues on peacebuilding, resilience, and food security, highlighted the country's commitment to sustainable development and cooperation with the UN System. The commemorations also served as an opportunity to reaffirm Niger's engagement with the UN system and its partners in addressing pressing challenges such as climate shocks. Indeed, a tree planting initiative highlighted the environmental challenges Niger faces as the country remains exposed to worsening and unpredictable weather events and changes.

**Launch of the 2025/26 School Year in Niger:** The 2025/26 academic year was officially launched on 15 October 2025 by the Minister of National Education, Literacy, Vocational Training, and Promotion of National Languages. The start of classes was postponed due to heavy rainfall and flooding, which disrupted access to schools and delayed preparations. Despite these challenges, approximately 3 million children have returned to school. WFP will provide school meals to support more than 323,000 children back to school throughout the school year. School meals are a vital incentive for children to attend and stay in school, improving enrolment, retention, and learning outcomes. Complementing this, WFP's adolescent girls' bursary program supports continued education for girls, helping to prevent dropouts and promote gender equality in learning opportunities.

#### RRM (Rapid Response Mechanism) criticality

WFP Niger's RRM, implemented in close coordination with the RRM Consortium, has been critical in addressing acute humanitarian needs caused by insecurity and displacement. The mechanism enables food assistance to be delivered within 15 days of displacement alerts. Despite severe access constraints, WFP has reached 185,454 people since the start of 2025, including 36,352 in October, across Tillabéri, Tahoua, Maradi, and Diffa. WFP remained the primary actor providing emergency food assistance when other partners scaled down, reinforcing its essential role in safeguarding food security and stabilizing vulnerable communities. The RRM's agility, strong partner coordination, and ability to respond rapidly to population movements underscore WFP's central role in Niger's humanitarian response.

#### Cost efficiency and Transformation Workshop

Between 29 - 30 October, WFP concluded a HQ-led review into cost-efficiency and Country Office (CO) redesign for the Niger CO with an in-country workshop. Through this process, WFP identified key efficiency measures such as warehouse and fleet optimization as well as reviewing the cost to deliver in Niger and assessing field-office presence. WFP Niger will now implement identified efficiency measures that will sustain operational performance and capacity in a landscape of increasingly limited resources.

Contact info: [Sarah.Stewart@wfp.org](mailto:Sarah.Stewart@wfp.org)  
Country Director: Kinday SAMBA  
Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/niger](http://www.wfp.org/countries/niger)

Photo caption: Children in a school canteen at Chadakori Primary School having breakfast supported by WFP. Chadakori commune, Maradi region @Adamou DAN SALAOU

# WFP Country Strategy

## Country Strategic Plan (2020 – 2025)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
1.9 billion	1.19 billion
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (Nov 25 - Apr 26)
209.1 million	68.4 million

### 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 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.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:** Provide an integrated school feeding package to boys, girls, and adolescents during the school year in a way that relies 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, decentralized institutions and partners on: (i) coherent and gender-transformative intersectoral policies; ii) planning, (ii) coordination mechanisms, (iii) ownership and programme implementation, and (iv) 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.

## Operational update

- **Emergency Response:** WFP's emergency response reached **61,352** individuals—out of the 163,500 initially planned—through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), support to migrants in Assamaka, and assistance to refugees in Sayam Forage Camp. In October, fewer Multi-Sectoral Assessments (MSAs) could be conducted, and Consortium partners were able to cover part of the response. Consequently, WFP scaled back its involvement after serving as the main RRM responder since the beginning of 2025.
- **School Meals:** A validated quarterly distribution plan has delivered 3,456 metric tons of food commodities to 1,655 schools, benefiting **323,224** schoolchildren for the new academic year that began on 15 October.
- **Nutrition:** WFP provided curative supplementation for moderate acute malnutrition to **97,352** children aged 6–23 months. These efforts were complemented by 71 sensitization sessions, 58 cooking demonstrations, and the screening of approximately 2,000 children. Additionally, cash was distributed to a total of **1,851** children aged 6-23 months and **876** pregnant and breast-feeding women and girls.
- **Rural Development:** WFP continued to provide capacity-strengthening support through the transfer of tools and training to **145,000** participants, focusing on improved agricultural practices and techniques to reduce post-harvest losses.
- **Social Protection:** **44,702** people were reached through regular cash transfers in Maradi and Zinder as part of the shock-responsive safety net programme for the month of October.
- **UNHAS:** UNHAS transported **1,272** passengers and **3.03** metric tons of cargo while also conducting three medical evacuations. Current operations are sustained through to April 2026.

## Assessments, Market and Evaluation

- **Market:** In October, thanks to the arrival of harvests across all regions of the country, food prices have continued to decline. Compared to the same period last year (October 2024), prices dropped significantly: millet (-26 %), maize (-30%), sorghum (-33 %), imported rice (-24 %), and cowpeas (-31 %). These reductions mark a return to more normal levels after the exceptional price increases in 2024 caused by security tensions and border closures particularly with Benin.
- **Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM):** WFP has launched an internal new CFM and process monitoring dashboard, providing real-time visibility of feedback trends and operational performance. Furthermore, an evaluation of the effectiveness of CFM channels across all regions is currently underway through field visits, aiming to identify gaps and strengthen accountability to affected populations.

## Challenges

- **Security and access constraints:** Since 21 October all NGO activity has been banned in the commune of Bagaroua in Tahoua, this follows a security incident on 18 October. This affects 16,849 beneficiaries that would have received assistance during the month of November. FFA activities were suspended as of 21 October, necessitating adjustments to planned activities. Armed group activity has delayed food deliveries and complicated assistance to food-insecure populations as well as the digitalization process. Approximately 36,400 beneficiaries affected by insecurity could not be registered.
- **Severe Funding Constraints:** WFP Niger urgently requires US\$ 68.4 million over the next six months (November 2025 – April 2026), including US\$ 31.8 million for crisis response alone. Due to funding constraints, WFP already suspended emergency assistance for 900,000 people in 2025. A further 58,000 children will stop receiving emergency nutrition support from November 2025 onwards due to limited funding.