



WFP Niger Country Brief December 2025

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, 2024). 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 December 2025 Cadre Harmonisé results published by the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), 2.4 million people are projected to face severe food insecurity during the June – August 2026 period. The 2025 IPC analysis revealed that 1.2 million children will suffer from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 0.4 million from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2026. Chronic malnutrition has increased from 47 percent in 2022 to 50.5 percent in 2025 according to the 2025 SMART analysis. Except for the region of Niamey, which is in a high (serious) situation, all other regions are in a very high (critical) situation according to WHO classification. 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 189th out of 193**

Chronic malnutrition: **50.5 %**

Population: **28 million**

Income level: **Low income**

In Numbers

659,000 people assisted in December*

1,175 mt of food distributed*

US\$ 2.2 million of cash-based transfers made*

US\$ 70.4 million six-month net funding requirements

(Jan – Jun 2026)

*Preliminary figures



Strategic Updates

WFP supports Government of Niger's South-South knowledge exchange through Social Protection visit to Pakistan: From 1-5 December, a Nigerien delegation including technicians from three ministries visited Pakistan for a knowledge sharing mission, centered on the Government of Pakistan's national social protection system. The visit aimed to inform Niger's efforts to modernize its social protection framework, operationalize the Unified Social Registry (RSU), and integrate nutrition and human capital outcomes into social protection transfer programmes. As part of these reforms, the Government of Niger has initiated the development of a national social protection roadmap. WFP is supporting key government institutions in operationalizing this national vision, which is underpinned by a strong legal framework, effective coordination, and a government-led delivery chain for a national safety net programme.

CSP extension and transition to the next Strategic Cycle: In December, WFP obtained approval for Budget Revision 8 (BR8), which extends the Niger Country Strategic Plan (CSP) through to December 2026 and adjusts the budget to reflect the current funding outlook. The extension ensures alignment with the Government's priorities under the recently approved *Programme de Réfondation de la République* (PRR) 2025–2029. Preparations for the next CSP (2027–2031) are underway, with internal planning processes advancing to ensure operational readiness and full alignment with national frameworks.

WFP Niger's year-end donor briefing: On 17 December, WFP Niger convened its final donor briefing of 2025 for a comprehensive update on operational achievements and strategic challenges. Discussions highlighted the impact of WFP's interventions, the consequences of funding suspensions, and progress on the Country Office redesign project, alongside the funding outlook for 2026. Donors actively engaged throughout the session, commending WFP's transparency and raising targeted questions on inter-agency coordination, security escort protocols, and the balance between urgent humanitarian needs and longer-term resilience investments.

WFP participation in the annual assessment of pastoral vulnerability: On 30-31 December, the Réseau Billital Maroobé (RBM), a regional network representing pastoralist and herder communities across the Sahel, with financial and technical support from WFP, held its annual workshop to review activities related to monitoring pastoral household vulnerabilities. Discussions centered on progress achieved in 2025, notably in improving data collection and dissemination on food and nutrition security among pastoral households, strengthening tools and methodologies for targeting and shock response adapted to pastoral conditions, and enhancing coordination among stakeholders to advocate for response mechanisms tailored to the needs of vulnerable pastoral communities.

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2020 – 2026)	
Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
1.9 billion	1.19 billion
2026 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (Jan – Jun 2026)
201.9 million	70.4 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 reached 243,601 people through the Rapid Response Mechanism and support to extremely vulnerable households (post-RRM). WFP suspended post-RRM assistance at the end of May 2025 due to funding constraints. However, a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) conducted with the Government and UNHCR in July, two months after the suspension, revealed that vulnerability levels had already deteriorated, leading WFP to resume assistance for those most vulnerable in December for three months.
- **School Meals:** A total of 323,224 schoolchildren across 1,655 schools were served meals in school canteens. Cash distributions for adolescent girls that completed attendance for the first term of the 2025-2026 academic year began, with 33,573 adolescent girls currently enrolled in the programme.
- **Nutrition:** WFP provided curative supplementation for moderate acute malnutrition to 91,998 children aged 6-23 months. In addition, 8,985 sensitization sessions were conducted followed with cooking demonstrations at the Learning and Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres (FARNs) where 360,329 children were also screened for malnutrition.
- **Rural Development:** Capacity strengthening actions continued to support 143,280 individuals across FFA sites including technical training and coaching, cultivation of vegetable gardens and existing income-generating activities, and replenishment of cereal bank stocks.
- **UNHAS:** UNHAS transported 1,206 passengers and 1.52 metric tons of light cargo. The number of passengers and the volume of cargo dropped by 6 percent compared to the previous month, likely due to the holiday period. Current operations are sustained through to June 2026.

Assessments, Market and Evaluation

- **Assessment:** The Cadre Harmonisé (CH) session for analyzing the food and nutrition security situation was held from 11-17 December in Dosso. The workshop brought together experts from all regions of the country. It was followed by the quality review conducted by the CH technical committee on 18-19 December.
- **Markets:** In December, harvests across all regions of the country contributed to a widespread decline in food prices. Compared to November, prices fell slightly. Compared to December 2024, the declines are significantly greater: millet (-23%), corn (-31%), sorghum (-25%), imported rice (-25%) and cowpea (-15%). These decreases reflect a gradual return to normal market conditions after the sharp increases recorded in 2024.

Challenges

- **Security and access constraints:** The security situation remains volatile, marked by armed attacks, sabotage of critical infrastructure, organized crime, and rising use of improvised explosive devices. In December, security incidents have also affected operational continuity in Tillia (Tahoua region), where approximately 7,000 people could not be reached as planned, and 21 schools were unable to receive food assistance in Bagaroua. In Agadez, activities have been temporarily paused due to precautionary measures related to identified radiological risks.
- **Funding outlook for 2026:** For 2026, WFP Niger requires a total of USD 201.7 million to sustain its operations. At the start of the year, confirmed resources remain extremely limited, while current forecasts indicate a potential US\$ 45 million in new contributions. Between January and June 2026, WFP Niger faces a US\$ 70.4 M funding gap, representing 58 percent of the requirements to maintain operations during this period. This severe shortfall poses significant risks to life-saving assistance, school feeding, and nutrition programmes, potentially reversing gains in resilience and food security.

2025 WFP Niger donors: Canada | Cyprus | Denmark | EU | France | Germany | Italy | Luxembourg | Monaco | Niger | Norway | Private Sector | Russia | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | UN CERF | UK | USA