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Country card

Niger

(SAHA Programme)

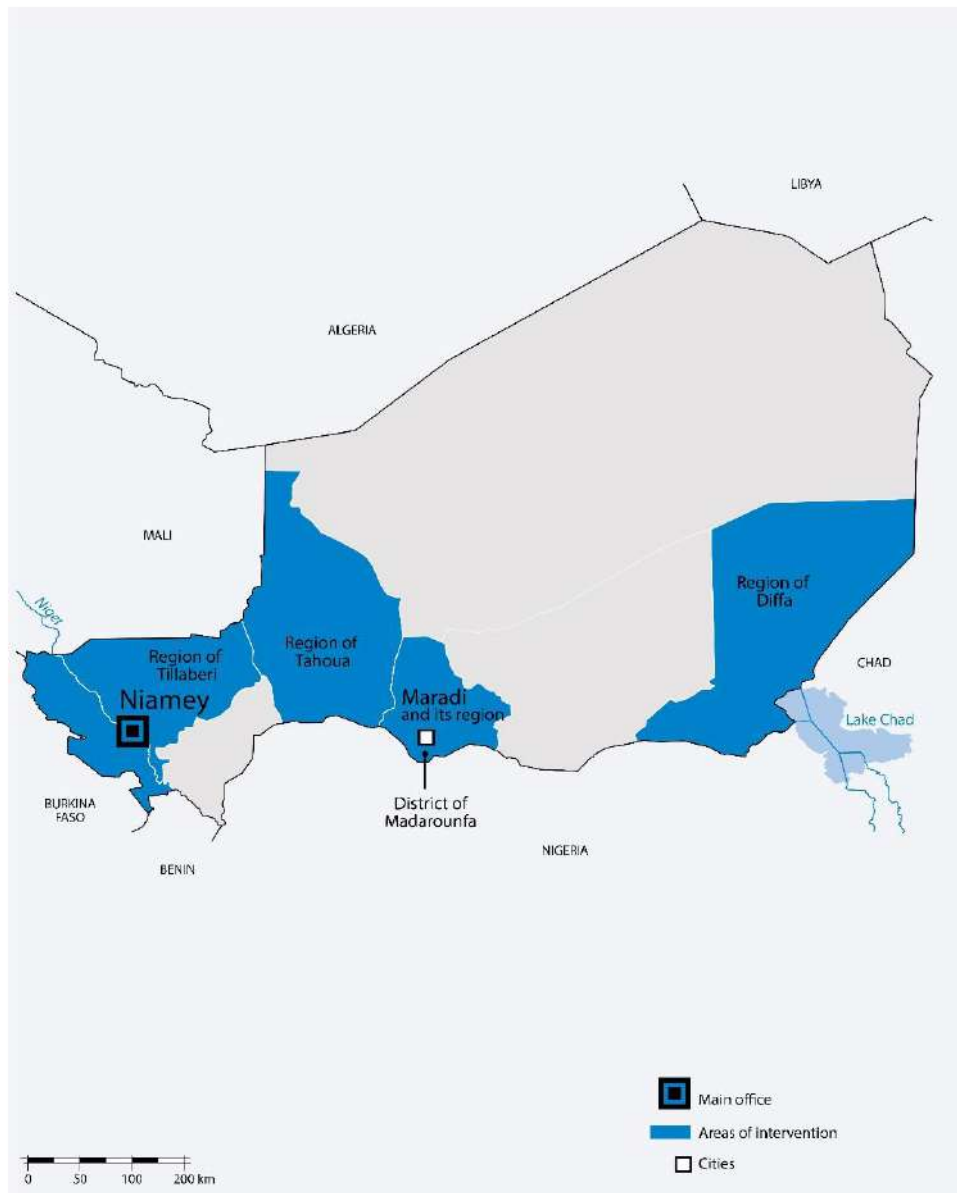




HI's team and where we work

HI's programme team in Niger has 103 staff members.

Niger





General country data

a. General data

Country	Niger	Burkina Faso	France
Population	24,206,636	20,321,378	67,391,582
IDHI	0.39	0.452	0.809
Gender development index	0.724	0.87	0.98
Maternal mortality	509	320	10
GINI Index	34.3	35.3	31.6
Population within the UNHCR mandate	175,418	25,122	368,352
INFORM Index	7.3	6.4	2.2
Fragile States Index	95.3	85.9	30.5
Public Social Protection	2.9	2.7	31.7
Official development assistance received	1,495.5	1,219.8	0

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratification/Accession: 23/03/1999
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratification/Accession: 02/06/2009
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratification/Accession: 24/06/2008



A. Geopolitical analysis

Niger is located in the southern Sahara, at the heart of Africa. It covers an area of 1,267,000 sq.km, of which two-thirds is desert. Niger shares borders with Algeria and Libya to the north, Chad to the east, Nigeria and Benin to the south, and Burkina Faso and Mali to the west. Its capital is Niamey.

Niger is a landlocked country and enjoys good relations with its neighbours on which its economy and security depend. The country is a member of many regional organisations (the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States - ECOWAS, the G5 Sahel, the Community of Sahel and Sahara States - CEN-SAD, etc.); it is also a member of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation and the International Organization of the Francophonie.

Niger has helped resolve multiple crises in the region and beyond; it sent troops to Côte d'Ivoire under UN mandate from 2004 to 2015, then to the Central African Republic and Haiti. It is currently deploying some 900 soldiers in Mali as part of the UN mission. It is also a member of the Monitoring Committee for the Algiers Peace Agreement. Niger chaired ECOWAS for one year in 2020. The country has suffered repeated terrorist attacks since 2011 and has taken in a large number of refugees.

The Boko Haram armed group, which has carried out repeated deadly attacks in Niger, has caused population displacement inside Nigeria and Nigerian refugees have crossed the country's borders, particularly in the Diffa region. These security challenges have made Niger a driving force behind regional solutions since 2014. It cofounded the Multinational Joint Task Force with Chad, Nigeria and Cameroon to combat Boko Haram. It also launched the G5 Sahel with Chad, Mauritania, Mali and Burkina Faso. Despite the establishment of the G5 Sahel joint cross-border force, the security situation has steadily deteriorated. Over the last three years, the west of Niger, on the border with Burkina Faso and Mali, has experienced an upsurge in terrorist attacks.

Relatively stable with vast land borders and links to North Africa, Niger has attracted a large number of refugees and asylum seekers and migrants of various nationalities. As well as hosting large numbers of refugees, the country has also become a transit point for migrants from western and central Africa and an increasingly important gateway for migrants crossing North Africa to the Mediterranean and Europe.



Disabilities: popular perceptions and representations of disability in Niger generally assimilate it with incapacity on the one hand and impairment on the other. Negative perceptions and attitudes perpetuated by the families of people with disabilities and the community at large remain the greatest obstacle to the successful integration of people with disabilities into society. Many families use children with disabilities to generate income through begging, depriving them of their right to education and training.

Another phenomenon is the use of children with disabilities and the children of poor families as guides, locking families into an endless cycle of poverty.

In practice, although the phenomenon is less common in urban areas, people with disabilities are regularly stigmatised and rejected in Niger. This is particularly true of people with severe disabilities, who are mostly hidden by families ashamed of their condition.



Summary of HI's work in the country

In May 2006, HI opened an office in Niamey after conducting an exploratory mission and implementing two projects: one pilot project on education and one disability and citizenship project. After registering as an organisation in 2007, it signed a framework agreement with the Niger government. HI subsequently implemented two regional projects in Niger. The first, launched in 2008, was the DECISIPH (Rights, Equality, Citizenship, Solidarity and Inclusion of People with Disabilities) project; the second was the APPEHL (Promoting the Full Participation of Children with Disabilities through Education) project launched in 2012. DECISIPH was extended to become an inclusive local development and capacity-building/follow-up project led by FNPH in 2013.

HI expanded the scope of its work in 2012 with the launch of the RICA (Food Security and Resilience) and RC/VA (Armed Violence Reduction) projects in Agadez, and the launch of ESSPOIR (Prevention and Reduction of the Risks of Complications and Disabling Sequelae in Malnourished Children or Children with Developmental Delays Under the Age of 5) in 2015.

In 2016, the SUDA (Strengthen, Use, Develop and Augment) project updated the training programme for physiotherapists in Niger and provided training equipment and aids to the Niger Physiotherapy Organisation.

In 2017, after conducting a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the computer modelling and 3D printing of prostheses, HI fitted the first patients as part of its regional IMPACT 3D project.

HI is currently providing support to vulnerable people in Niger: people with disabilities affected by humanitarian response in Diffa, Maradi, by leading action on inclusion centrally through clusters and working groups; urban refugees and asylum seekers in the city of



Niamey since 2015 (Urban Refugees and Asylum Seekers Project); and people living near weapons stockpiles.

In 2021, HI launched two projects to help protect people living in conflict-affected areas. HI's education project helps children with disabilities access and stay in primary education. HI has partnered with the Niger Federation for People with Disabilities to implement a project on the social and legal inclusion of women and children with disabilities in Niger. At the end of 2019, HI launched a project to strengthen the resilience and social cohesion of vulnerable people in cross-border regions (RECOSA).



Current projects

Sectors where HI implements projects, focusing on beneficiaries and partners

Project title main sectors	Project goals in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries at the end of the project	Partners	Location	Project start and end dates and donors
Inclusive education	Provide all children with an equitable, inclusive and quality education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build capacities (teachers, educational advisers, school committees, parents-teacher associations, organisations of persons with disabilities) • Identify/care-manage and follow-up children with disabilities • Raise community awareness of inclusive education • Carry out building works to improve accessibility • Assist families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,042 children with disabilities • 656 teachers • 635 community actors • 8 schools 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education, Public Health and Population • Niger Federation of People with Disabilities • Decentralized School Management Committees • National Organisation for the Parents of Children and Students 	Niamey Maradi Tahoua	09.2017 – 12.2022 UNICEF NORAD MAE-LUX
Inclusive Humanitarian Action	Promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in humanitarian response and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train trainers for the inclusion technical team • Provide organisational assistance to disabled people's organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,400 community members, including 625 people with disabilities 	5,240 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niger Federation of People with Disabilities • NGO • Local authorities 	Diffa Maradi Niamey	01.2021 – 05.2023 UNHCR GFFO



	<p>development initiatives</p> <p>Improve access to humanitarian aid for victims, people with disabilities and other vulnerable people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Train humanitarian actors, local authorities and technical services• Collect data and perform advocacy• Raise community awareness of social inclusion• Assess infrastructure accessibility• Assess district institutional capacities• Facilitate access to civil-status documents• Set up community follow-up committees• Help implement community projects• Carry out studies on obstacles to humanitarian aid for people with disabilities• Raise awareness and build capacities• Build the capacities of humanitarian actors• Identify and strengthen organisations of people with disabilities, young people, women and older people	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 161 elected officials and technical service managers• 37 humanitarian actors (15 in Niamey and 22 in Diffa)• 1,000 people (young women and older people)			<p>MAE-LUX</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, refer, guide and supply technical aids and psychosocial support • Implement community inclusion and awareness-raising mechanisms to promote respect for diversity, social cohesion and inclusion 					
<p>Management of refugee camps and population return</p> <p>Projet Guichet Unique</p>	Protect and assist urban refugees and asylum seekers in Niamey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a desk for reception, information and guidance services • Provide personalised social assistance to the most vulnerable refugees • Raise awareness of social services • Implement a system of registration, accommodation, livelihood support and assistance for asylum seekers • Prevent and identify sexual and sexist violence. Holistically manage proven cases: medical, psychosocial, legal and socio-economic • Implement a community-based mechanism to identify children at risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malian refugees living in Niamey, including children and women victims of violence • Services of the city of Niamey 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees • Local authorities • Partners in the fields of health, education and social affairs 	Niamey	01-12.2021 UNHCR
Inclusive Humanitarian	Help remove obstacles to access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop strategic frameworks and risk education tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civilian population 	20,000 people benefiting from	National Commission for the Collection and	Diffa Bosso	06.2021 – 05.2023



<p>Action & Armed Violence Reduction</p> <p>Explosives and munitions risk education</p>	<p>and protection for vulnerable communities by providing a response that takes into account the conflict and situation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement risk education sessions • Train community leaders, teachers and administrative managers in risk education • Build the capacities of the National Commission for the Collection and Control of Illegal Weapons to develop a risk education and information management strategy • Provide risk education to humanitarian workers (drivers and field staff members) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Commission for the Collection and Control of Illegal Weapons • Niger Federation of People with Disabilities 	<p>risk education activities</p>	<p>Control of Illegal Weapons</p>	<p>Toumour Kabléwa Mainé soroa Tillabéri Torodi Gothèye Ourodjaladjo Say Makalondi</p>	<p>GFFO</p>
<p>Physical and functional rehabilitation & Early childhood development (Stimulation, developmental physiotherapy)</p> <p>Passeport pour Grandir</p>	<p>Prevent and limit the complications and disabling sequelae of malnutrition in children under 5 suffering from severe acute malnutrition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct and equip spaces with stimulation equipment • Train physiotherapists • Train trainers in stimulation • Train social and health workers • Manage stimulation exercises for children under 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe and moderately malnourished children under 5 • Children at risk and/or developmentally delayed children • Parents/extended family members of malnourished children • Social and health workers • Local actors and community leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,052 children • 6,104 mothers/fathers/guardians • 12,208 people from extended families • 25 social and health workers • 107 local actors and community leaders • 16 local, regional and national actors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Public Health (Department of Nutrition) • Ministry for the Advancement of Women, and Child Protection • Association of Physiotherapists • MSF • Regional Public Health Department • Regional Department for Population, the Advancement of Women, and Child Protection. 	<p>Maradi Municipalities of Madarounfa, Safo, Dan Issa, Gabi, Djiratawa and Sarkin Yamma</p>	<p>06.2019 – 11.2021</p> <p>DGD</p>



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local, regional and national authorities 				
<p>Economic inclusion & social cohesion</p> <p>RECOSA</p>	<p>Build the resilience and social cohesion of vulnerable people in cross-border regions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out participatory community vulnerability and capacity studies and support the implementation of community projects Implement community projects Cash transfers Transfer productive assets (income generating activities, livestock, agricultural inputs) Set up village savings and loan organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very poor households Public technical services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,000 households benefiting from cash transfers 5,830 people involved in savings and loan activities 400 very poor households benefiting from cash for work 50 trained and equipped livestock auxiliaries 50 people supported to enter the livestock-meat chain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Department for Agriculture and Livestock Local authorities of Anzourou, Dargol, Diagougou, Sakoira Regional Department for Humanitarian Affairs 	Tillabéri	<p>12.2019 – 12.2023</p> <p>European Union</p>
<p>Protection and basic needs</p> <p>PAPYRUS</p>	<p>Improve the protection of vulnerable people affected by on-going, imminent or future humanitarian crises.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train local actors in inclusion, protection, mental health, stress management and psychological first aid Raise awareness of mental health, stress management and adaptation strategies 	<p>People from affected areas, community leaders, authorities locales.</p>	<p>People from affected areas, community leaders, authorities locales.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Niger Federation of People with Disabilities NGO Local authorities 	Tillabéri region	<p>11.2021 – 10.2023</p> <p>DGD</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify, refer, evaluate and care-manage malnourished children• Organise in conjunction with project officers discussion groups and one-to-one counselling with mothers referred by community focal points and social and health workers• Organise in conjunction with community focal points at-home visits for the post-care follow-up of stabilised severely malnourished children		conflict or natural disaster benefiting from emergency shelter assistance			
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Donors

<p>UNICEF</p> 	<p>NORAD</p> 	<p>Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> 
<p>UNHCR</p> 	<p>GFFO</p> 	<p>DGD</p> 
<p>EU</p> 	<p>OCHA</p> 	