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Country Sheet

Niger

(SAHA regional
programme)

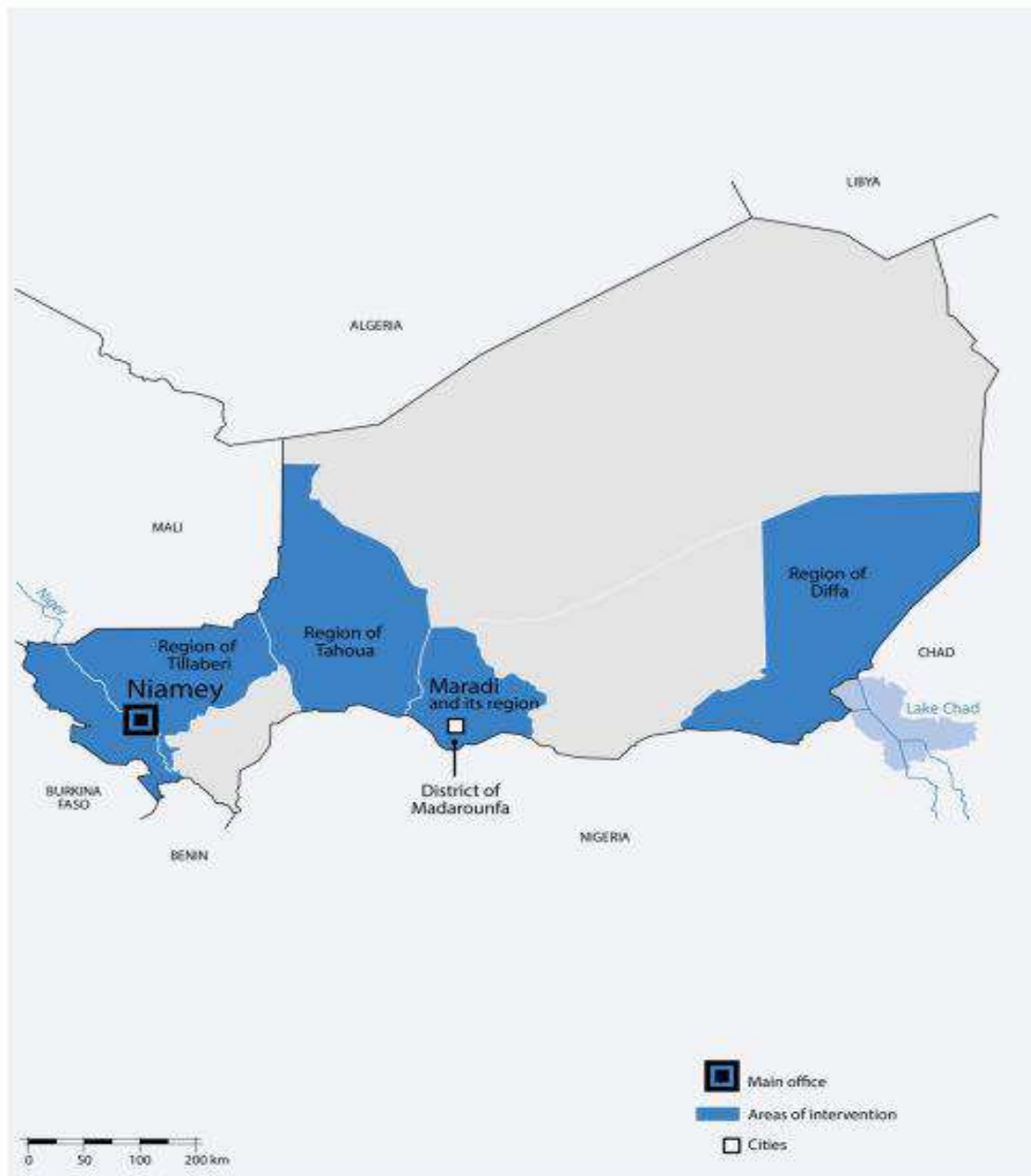




HI's team and areas of intervention

There are 112 people on HI's team in Niger.

Niger





General Country Data

General data

Country	Niger	Burkina Faso	France
Population	24,206,636	20,321,378	67,391,582
IHDI	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 under 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

International law instrument	Status
Mine ban treaty	Ratified / Joined: 23.03.1999
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratified / Joined: 02.06.2009
United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified / Joined: 14.06.2008
Convention to Eliminate all forms of Discrimination Against Women	1999
Convention on the rights of the child	30.09.1990



c. Geopolitical analysis

Niger is situated south of the Sahara, in the heart of Africa. The country borders 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. With a surface area of 1,267,000 km², Niger has three climate zones: the north is dry and arid; the centre is a Sahelian zone with average rainfall; and the south has high rainfall. As a result, the country is prone to both droughts and floods. Niger's economy is largely based on agriculture and the breeding of livestock.

Education is a major challenge in Niger. With one of the highest population growth rates in the world (3.9% per year) and one out of every two citizens under the age of 15, the country still has one of the lowest school enrolment rates in the world, particularly among children with disabilities.

Niger is a landlocked country that tries to maintain good relations with its neighbours, on which it depends for economic exchanges and security. It is a member of many regional organisations (African Union, Economic Community of West African States - ECOWAS, G5 Sahel, Community of Sahel and Saharan States - CEN-SAD, etc.). It is also a member of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the International Organisation of La Francophonie. Niger has often played a role in the resolution of crises, both in the region and beyond, sending troops to Côte d'Ivoire as part of the UN mandate from 2004 to 2015, and later to the Central African Republic, Haiti and Mali. Owing to its relative stability, its numerous land borders and its links with North Africa, Niger has also assumed important responsibilities in recent years in the fight against terrorism in the Sahel and in the asylum and protection of refugees of various nationalities. It has seen successive and significant waves of population displacement in recent years.

As it borders Mali, Chad, and Nigeria, Niger is exposed to the security tensions of its neighbours and to incursions by non-state armed groups into its territory. In 2019 and 2020, the security situation greatly and constantly deteriorated, with an intensification of attacks by non-state armed groups.

People with disabilities are highly stigmatised in Niger. According to popular perceptions and representations, disability is generally assimilated to incapacity and deficiency. The negative perceptions and attitudes perpetuated by families and communities remain the biggest obstacle to the successful social inclusion of people with disabilities. Many families use their children with disabilities to bring in money from begging, thus depriving them of their right to education and training. Another phenomenon is the "use" of children of people with disabilities and children from poor families as begging guides, keeping families in perpetual poverty and ensuring a lack of prospects for these children and adolescents.



Summary of HI's work in the country

In May 2006, after carrying out an exploratory mission and preparing two projects (a pilot education project and a project on disability and citizenship), HI opened an office in Niamey. The organisation was registered in 2007 and a framework agreement signed with the Niger State Government. Subsequently, two regional projects were developed, in 2008 and 2012.

The organisation's field of intervention began to expand in 2012 with a food security and a resilience and armed violence reduction project in Agadez, and then in 2015 with the project to prevent and reduce the risk of complications and disabling after-effects in children under five suffering from malnutrition or delayed development. In 2016, a new project updated the training programme for physical therapists in the country and provided training materials to the Niger Physical Therapists Association

In 2017, after conducting a study to evaluate the effectiveness of computer modelling and 3D printing of prostheses, HI fitted its first patients as part of the regional IMPACT 3D project. Between 2015 and 2021, HI also developed a project to assist urban refugees and asylum seekers in the city of Niamey. Actions aimed at protecting populations living near stocks of weapons and ammunition were deployed in partnership with the National Commission for the Collection and Control of Illicit Weapons, from 2014 to 2021.

HI is currently supporting vulnerable populations in Niger (people with disabilities affected by humanitarian responses in Diffa, and Maradi) and is carrying out inclusion support actions centrally, in different clusters and working groups. In 2021, in response to the protection needs of populations in conflict-affected areas, HI launched two projects on explosive ordnance risk education and the prevention of multiple violations affecting vulnerable populations.

Through its inclusive education project, the organisation helps children with disabilities to access and remain in primary education. HI has collaborated with FNPH to implement a project to promote the social and legal inclusion of women and children with disabilities in Niger. Since the end of 2019, HI has been implementing a project to strengthen the resilience and social cohesion of vulnerable populations in cross-border regions. Despite the COVID-19 crisis, HI has been able to adapt its ongoing activities to meet the needs of the vulnerable population.



Overview of current projects

Sectors in which HI is running projects, with a focus on the beneficiaries and partners

Project title and main sectors of intervention:	Objectives of the project in the sector	Main activities:	Beneficiaries at the end of the project	Partners	Location	Project start and end dates and institutional donors
Inclusive education	To ensure all children access to an equitable, inclusive and quality education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity-building (teachers, pedagogical advisers, school committees, parents' associations and organisations of people with disabilities) • Identification/ case management and follow-up of children with disabilities • Community awareness raising on inclusive education • Support to families • Building accessibility works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,042 children with disabilities • 656 teachers • 635 community workers • 8 schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education, Public Health and Population • Niger Federation of People with Disabilities • Committees for the decentralised management of schools • National association of parents of schoolchildren and students 	Niamey Maradi Tahoua	09.2017 – 12.2022 UNICEF, NORAD and LUX Foreign Affairs Ministry
Risk education on explosives and munitions Armed violence reduction	To help remove barriers to access and protect vulnerable communities through a conflict- and context-sensitive response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping of risk education strategies and tools • Organisation of risk education sessions • Risk education training for community leaders, teachers and administrative managers • Capacity building of the National Commission for the Collection and Control of Illicit Arms to develop a risk education and information management strategy 	20,000 people reached by risk education activities	National Commission for the Collection and Control of Illicit Arms	Diffa Tillabéry	06.2021 – 05.2023 GFFO



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk education for humanitarian aid workers (drivers and field personnel) 				
Inclusive humanitarian action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the inclusion of people with disabilities in humanitarian responses and development initiatives. • To improve access to humanitarian aid for affected people, people with disabilities and other vulnerable people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of trainers • Organisational support for organisations of people with disabilities • Training/awareness-raising and coaching of humanitarian actors, local authorities and technical services • Data collection and advocacy • Community awareness-raising on inclusion • Assessment of the accessibility of infrastructures • Diagnosis of the institutional capacities of municipalities, support for civil documentation, setting up of citizen monitoring committees • Studies on the barriers to humanitarian aid for people with disabilities • Awareness-raising and capacity-building on the inclusion of people at risk of being excluded from the humanitarian response • Capacity –building of humanitarian actors on the inclusivity of interventions • Identification and strengthening of organisations of people with disabilities, young people, women and older people • Identification, referral, guidance and provision of technical aids and psychosocial support to people with specific needs • Establishment of mechanisms for inclusion and community raising of respect for diversity, 	<p>5,240 people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.400 members of the community, including 625 people with disabilities • 161 elected representatives and technical service managers • 37 humanitarian actors (15 in Niamey and 22 in Diffa) • 1,000 people (young women and older people) 	<p>Niger Federation of People with Disabilities NGOs Local authorities</p>	<p>Diffa Maradi Niamey Tillabéry</p>	<p>01.2021 – 05.2023</p> <p>GFFO, LUX Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>



		social cohesion and inclusion to prevent exclusion and denial.				
RECOSA Economic inclusion & social cohesion	To strengthen the resilience and social cohesion of vulnerable people living in the cross-border regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrying out participatory studies of vulnerability and capacities and supporting the implementation of community projects • Implementing community projects • Cash transfers • Transfers of productive assets (livestock, agricultural products, etc.) • Setting up village savings and credit associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,000 households benefiting from cash transfers • 5,830 people engaged in savings and credit actions • 400 households benefiting from cash for works • 50 livestock assistants trained and equipped • 50 people helped to become part of the livestock-meat value chain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional directorate of agriculture and livestock • Anzourou, Dargol, Diagougou, Sakoira local authorities • Regional directorate in charge of humanitarian affairs 	Tillabéry	12.2019 – 12.2023 European Union
PAPIRUS Protection and basic needs	To improve the protection of vulnerable populations affected by ongoing, imminent or future humanitarian crises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training local actors in inclusion, protection and mental health, stress management and psychological first aid • Awareness-raising in mental health, stress management and adaptation strategies • Distributions to cover basic needs / distributions of shelter / distributions of adapted kits (essential household items/hygiene/dignity) and mobility aids for people with disabilities. • Setting up a protective space (Centre d'Ecoute et de Jeu), for adults and children in psychological distress 	Population of the affected areas, community leaders, local authorities	Niger Federation of People with Disabilities Local authorities: NGOs	Tillabéry region	11.2021 - 10.2023 DGD
Emergency response to the needs of vulnerable	To provide shelter and non-food items kits to people affected by the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of priority areas and participatory targeting of beneficiaries • Information and guidance of beneficiaries 	• 300 children with severe acute malnutrition benefit from home visits	Regional Directorate Public Health	Maradi	12.2021 – 11.2022 OCHA



<p>populations in the Maradi region</p> <p>Basic needs & Physical and functional rehabilitation (Stimulation physical therapy)</p>	<p>armed conflict and/or natural disasters</p> <p>Stimulation physical therapy for children at risk of malnutrition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification, training and support to 10 Shelter relays • Providing affected households with NFI or shelters kits in 2021 • Organising the delivery of learning/awareness sessions for mothers by social and health workers in the recovery centres for malnourished children and the Outpatient Nutritional Recovery Centre for Severe Malnutrition • Supervising of community relays and socio-health workers by the health district management teams • Identification, referral, assessment and case-management of children admitted to the centres with malnutrition. • Organisation by project officers of discussion groups and individual counselling with mothers referred by the community relays • Organisation of home visits for post-care follow-up of children with stabilised severe acute malnutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,000 children benefit from early stimulation • Awareness-raising for 5,000 people • 1,000 households affected by a conflict or natural disasters receive a Non-Food Items kit • 1,000 households affected by a conflict or a natural disaster benefit from emergency shelter assistance 			
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Donors

<p>UNICEF</p> 	<p>NORAD</p> 	<p>Ministère des Affaires étrangères du Luxembourg</p> 
<p>UE</p> 	<p>GFFO</p> 	<p>DGD</p> 
	<p>OCHA</p> 	