



**NIGER**

# **MDG ACCELERATION FRAMEWORK**

*FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN NIGER*



**MDG ACCELERATION FRAMEWORK**  
**Food and Nutrition Security in Niger**

December 2011

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# ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

<b>ABN</b>	Niger Basin Authority (Autorité du Bassin du Niger)
<b>AFD</b>	French Development Agency (Agence Française de Développement)
<b>AfDB</b>	African Development Bank
<b>AGRHYMET</b>	Regional Centre for Training and Application in Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology (Centre régional de Formation et d'Application en Agrométéorologie et Hydrologie Opérationnelle)
<b>ANVDN</b>	National Volunteering Agency for Development in Niger (Agence Nationale de Volontariat pour le Développement au Niger)
<b>APD</b>	Public Aid for Development (Aide Publique au Développement)
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>BADEA</b>	Arab Bank for Economic Development (Banque Arabe de Développement Agricole)
<b>BMI</b>	Body Mass Index
<b>CA</b>	Supply Centre (Centrale d'Approvisionnement)
<b>CCAIN</b>	Chamber of Commerce, Crafts and Industry of Niger (Chambre de Commerce, d'Artisanat et d'Industrie du Niger)
<b>CERRA</b>	Regional Centre for Agricultural Research (Centre Régional de Recherche Agricole)
<b>CES</b>	Soil moisture conservation (Conservation des Eaux du Sol)
<b>CH4</b>	Methane
<b>CILSS</b>	Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (Comite Inter Etat de Lutte contre la Sécheresse au Sahel)
<b>CNCA</b>	Crédit Agricole National Bank (Caisse Nationale de Crédit Agricole)
<b>CO2</b>	Carbon dioxide
<b>DAER</b>	Directorate for Managing Rural Equipment (Direction de l'Aménagement et de l'Equipeement Rural)
<b>DE</b>	Directorate for Livestock Rearing (Direction de l'Elevage)
<b>DGA</b>	General Directorate for Agriculture (Direction Générale de l'Agriculture)
<b>DGE</b>	General Directorate of the Environment (Direction Générale de l'Environnement)
<b>DGGR</b>	General Directorate for Rural Engineering (Direction Générale du Génie Rural)
<b>DGPIA</b>	General Directorate for Animal Products and Industries (Direction Générale des Productions et Industries Animales)



<b>DGPV</b>	General Directorate for Plant Protection (Direction Générale de la Protection des Végétaux)
<b>DGSV</b>	General Directorate for Information Services (Direction Générale des Services de Vulgarisation)
<b>DNPGCA</b>	National Food Crisis and Mitigation Mechanism (Dispositif National de Prévention et de Gestion des Crises Alimentaires)
<b>DRA</b>	Regional Directorate of Agriculture (Direction Régionale de l'Agriculture)
<b>DRE</b>	Regional Directorate for Livestock Rearing (Direction Régionale de l'Elevage)
<b>DRS</b>	Land protection and restoration (Défense et Restauration des Terres)
<b>DSBE</b>	Survey on Levels of Basic Needs Satisfaction (Enquête sur le Degré de Satisfaction des Besoins Essentiels)
<b>EBID</b>	ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development
<b>ECOWAS</b>	Economic Community of West African States
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EUD</b>	European Union Delegation
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
<b>FCFA</b>	African Financial Community Franc (Franc de la Communauté Financière Africaine)
<b>FSL</b>	Lossa Seed Farm (Ferme Semencière de Lossa)
<b>GAFFSP</b>	Global Agricultural Food Security Program
<b>GoN</b>	Government of Niger
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GIFS</b>	Integrated Management of Soil Fertility (Gestion Intégrée de Fertilité des Sols)
<b>GIRE</b>	Integrated Water Resources Management (Gestion Intégrée des Ressources en Eau)
<b>HASA</b>	High Authority on Food and Nutrition Security (Haute Autorité à la Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle)
<b>HDI</b>	Human Development Index
<b>HIV/AIDS</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
<b>IAC</b>	Chronic Food Shortage (Insuffisance Alimentaire Chronique)
<b>ICRISAT</b>	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics
<b>IDB</b>	Islamic Development Bank (Banque Islamique de Développement)
<b>IEC/CC</b>	Information, Education and Communication/ for Behavioural Change (Information, Education et Communication/ pour un Changement de Comportements)
<b>ICAT</b>	Technical Advice and Support Institute (Institut de Conseil et d'Appui Technique)

<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>IFDC</b>	International Fertilizer Development Corporation
<b>IFPRI</b>	International Food Policy Research Institute
<b>IGA</b>	Income-generating activities
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>MAF</b>	MDG Acceleration Framework
<b>MFI</b>	Microfinance Institutions
<b>INRAN</b>	National Institute of Niger for Agricultural Research (Institut National de Recherche Agronomique du Niger)
<b>INS</b>	National Statistical Institute (Institut National de la Statistique)
<b>IPDR</b>	Practical Institute for Rural Development (Institut Pratique de Développement Rural)
<b>MAG/EL</b>	Ministry for Agriculture and Livestock Rearing
<b>MDG</b>	Millennium Development Goals
<b>MEN</b>	National Ministry of Education (Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale)
<b>NEPAD</b>	New Partnership for Africa's Development
<b>NER</b>	Net School Enrolment Rate
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental organisation
<b>OP</b>	Producers' Organisation (Organisation des Producteurs)
<b>OPEC</b>	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
<b>OPVN</b>	Food Products Office of Niger (Office des Produits Vivriers du Niger)
<b>PNIA</b>	National Programme for Agricultural Investment (Programme National d'Investissement Agricole)
<b>PNRA</b>	National Agricultural Research Programme (Programme National de Recherche Agricole)
<b>PP</b>	Small producers (Petits producteurs)
<b>PRSA</b>	Programme to Strengthen Support Services for Agriculture (Programme de Renforcement des Services d'Appui à l'Agriculture)
<b>PTF</b>	Technical and Financial Partners (Partenaires Techniques et Financiers)
<b>RG/C</b>	General Survey of Agriculture and Livestock (Recensement Général de l'Agriculture et du Cheptel)
<b>RINI</b>	Niger Rice (Riz du Niger)
<b>RN</b>	Natural Resources (Ressources Naturelles)
<b>SDR</b>	Rural Development Strategy (Stratégie de Développement Rural)
<b>SDRP</b>	Accelerated Development and Poverty Eradication Strategy (Stratégie de Développement accéléré et de Réduction de la Pauvreté)

<b>SND/OMD</b>	National Development Strategy based on the MDGs (Stratégie Nationale de Développement basée sur les OMD)
<b>SNRA</b>	National System for Agricultural Research (Système National de la Recherche Agronomique)
<b>SP</b>	Sub-programme
<b>SRP</b>	Poverty Eradication Strategy (Stratégie de Réduction de la Pauvreté)
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>UNS</b>	United Nations System
<b>UTLS</b>	Tropical Livestock Unit
<b>WADB</b>	West African Development Bank
<b>WAEMU</b>	West African Economic and Monetary Union
<b>WB</b>	World Bank
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation

# PREFACE

One of the main conclusions to come out of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which took place in New York in September 2010, is the need to continue implementing policies and approaches which have produced decisive results in terms of achieving the MDGs. These policies must be adapted to national contexts in order to accelerate MDG achievement. To this end, the UNDP has created an MDG Acceleration Framework for the purpose of creating ongoing change by identifying and removing relevant bottlenecks as well as creating policies which can facilitate removing these obstacles. At the current rate of MDG progress in Niger, only the goals of reducing infant/child mortality and controlling the prevalence of HIV/AIDS would be achieved in 2015. Progress remains particularly slow, especially in the fight against poverty and hunger, and food insecurity persists. Five years away from the deadline set for achieving the MDGs, the authorities have decided to take practical steps in their commitment to reaching the aforesaid goals by implementing the MDG 1 Acceleration Framework. A decision-making tool, the Acceleration Framework is an innovative, participatory process based on an analysis of existing strategies and policies designed to streamline and synergize partner interventions.

The Government of Niger undertook the formulation of the MDG Acceleration Framework using a participatory and systematic process of development and assessment which involved the UNDP and the Technical and Financial Partners, representatives of producer organizations, non-governmental organizations, research centres, the private sector and civil society.

With the help of the finalized MDG 1 Acceleration Framework, Niger has identified the factors which impede progress on the MDGs and has created acceleration solutions. For each of these solutions, a set of interventions has been established and the partners best placed to execute them identified. The implementation of the solutions identified with the support of all the partners will undoubtedly prove an appropriate response to food and nutrition insecurity in Niger. Furthermore, this framework constitutes a basis for the '3N' initiative launched by the new authorities of the Seventh Republic wishing to protect the populations of Niger from famine while guaranteeing them the necessary conditions for their full participation in national production and in increasing their incomes.

The Nigerien authorities would like to take this opportunity to express profound gratitude and sincere thanks to the development partners of Niger.



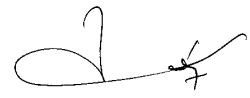
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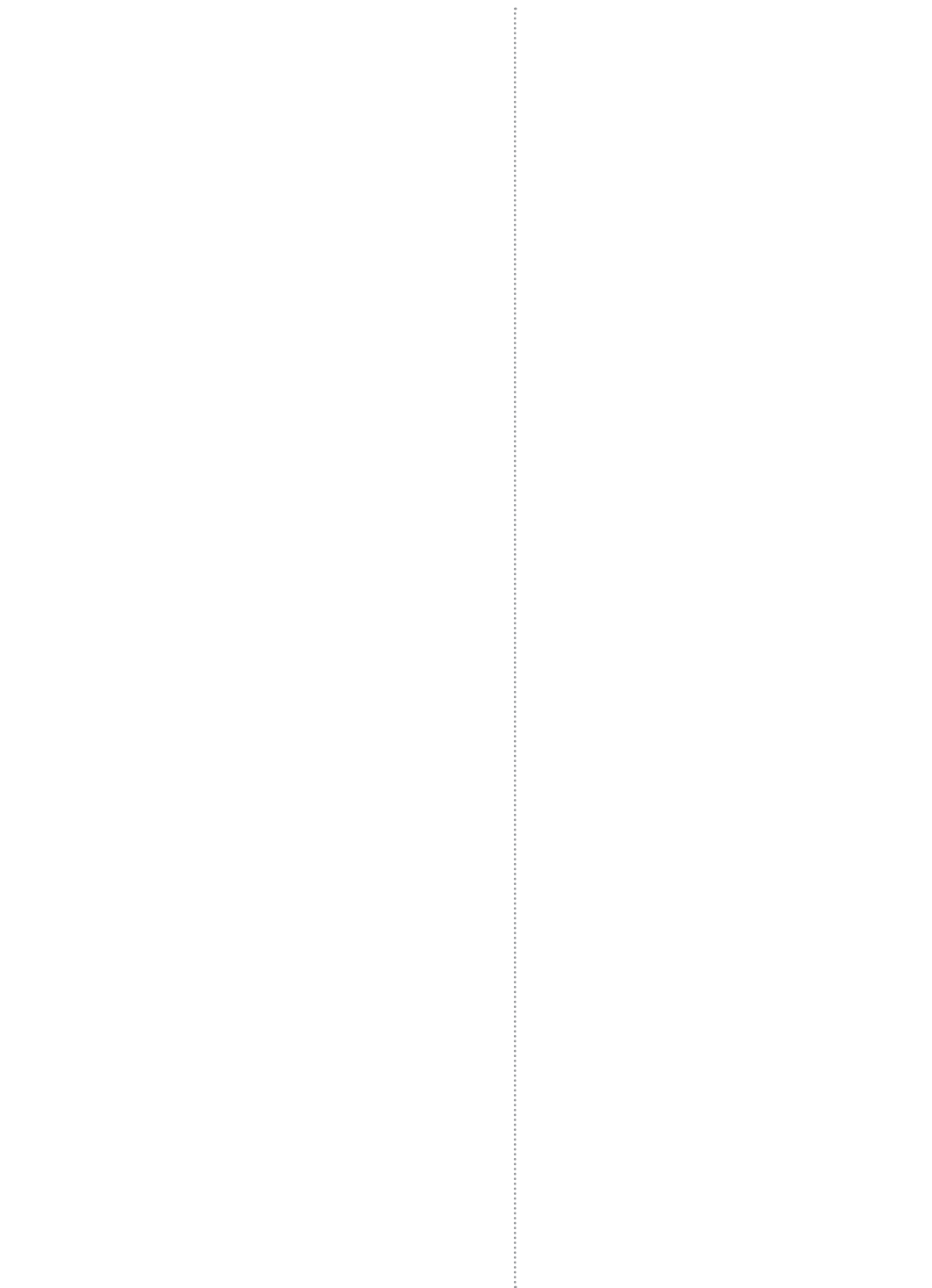
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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## 1. BACKGROUND TO THE MDG ACCELERATION FRAMEWORK

Progress on MDG 1, the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, has been relatively slow in Niger. The incidence of poverty failed to drop significantly between 1992 and 2008, retreating from 63 percent to 59.5 percent, as compared to the set target of 31.5 percent. The most vulnerable population groups are therefore facing a permanent subsistence crisis which is unrelated to food availability.

This state of vulnerability is exacerbated by a series of factors which militate against any significant reduction of poverty in Niger. The most important are: (i) the erratic nature and insufficient level of economic growth; (ii) recurrent food and nutrition crises; (iii) high population growth rate; and (iv) low agricultural productivity combined with the impact of climate change which renders production unpredictable in a country where more than 80 percent of the population relies on agriculture for its livelihood. The goal of reducing the proportion of those living below the poverty line to 31.5 percent by 2015 will therefore demand a considerable effort in the period from 2011 to 2015.

Against this backdrop, the MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF) constitutes a systematic means by which to identify the bottlenecks slowing down the implementation of MDG-based strategies and policies, and devise rapid impact, well-structured solutions in the form of an action plan designed to streamline and synergize government and

development partner interventions in order to enable Niger to realize its priority MDGs.

## 2. CHALLENGES FOR NIGER AND RELEVANCE OF THE CHOICE OF MDG 1

Despite the number of national strategies formulated (RDS 2002, DPRS 2007, RDS 2003) and their implementation plans (2006 RDS Action Plan, 2010 PNIAP/RDS, President of the Republic's Special Programme), the problem of food insecurity remains as acute today as during the crises of 2004/2005 and 2009/2010.

This remains one of the major development challenges in Niger. The most vulnerable population groups are in fact faced with a permanent subsistence crisis situation which is unrelated to fluctuations in food availability. The structural nature of this situation is compounded by cyclical episodes of food insecurity resulting from the recurrent crises in the country.

In the face of persistent food and nutrition insecurity, Niger has chosen to focus its efforts on MDG 1 and two of its three targets, namely, 'Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people living below the poverty line' and 'Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger'.

1) It should be noted that for Target 1 a, estimates of the poverty level in Niger are not based on the standard threshold of 1 US dollar a day, but rather on levels obtained from the findings of national budget and household consumption surveys.

### 3. INTERVENTIONS CAPABLE OF ACCELERATING MDG 1 TARGETS

In response to the major causes of food insecurity and impoverishment of rural communities, current and future strategic policies or interventions must focus on the following: promotion of easier access to production factors in rural areas (land, water, inputs, equipment); supervision of rural producers to prepare them to accept a level of technological skill capable of transforming current practices; valorization and optimal utilization of human resources in the rural sector; good governance in institutions responsible for heading rural development.

Further to the acceleration of the achievement of MDG 1 in Niger, key interventions which had previously been aligned with the PNIA/RDS are now classified under five areas of activity as follows:

1. improvement of access to inputs, equipment and sustainable land management techniques;
2. supervision of small-scale producers and valorization of research findings;
3. protection of vulnerable agropastoral households and livestock;
4. diversification and improvement of the quality of food consumed;
5. improvement of access to foodstuffs in rural and peri-urban areas.

### 4. ANALYSIS OF BOTTLENECKS

Work on the MAF in Niger has resulted in the identification of bottlenecks according to priority areas of intervention. Prioritization of these bottlenecks is based mainly on the scope of their

impact and the likelihood of removing them through concrete solutions. The section addresses 13 bottlenecks (1 to 13) identified within the seven areas of priority interventions below:

- Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and equipment. (1) poor financial access by producers to inputs and equipment; (2) poor physical access by producers to inputs and equipment (availability of stocks, distance from sales points, input shops, etc.).
- Sustainable management of soils and livestock. (3) extreme vulnerability of agropastoral production to climatic conditions.
- Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters) and support to their their organizations. (4) inadequacy of means (human, material, financial and technical) by which to disseminate available technologies.
- Improvement of access to water for small-scale producers for their agricultural, livestock, fishing and forestry production needs. (5) low capacity of agricultural producers to access and use irrigation and cultivation techniques; (6) low capacity for acquiring equipment and installations needed for production activities, and poor networking of water points for livestock.
- Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of income generating activities (IGA). (7) inadequacies in the identification and targeting of vulnerable groups, insufficient traceability of allocated funds and coordination of interventions in their favour; (8) poor adaptation of social safety nets to the needs of vulnerable households and insufficient number of viable IGA capable of sustainably securing households.

- Intensification of the fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups and access to clean water. (9) lack of awareness about the nutritional value of foodstuffs and persistence of sociocultural norms unfavourable to proper nutrition; (10) poor access by vulnerable groups, particularly children between 0-5 years, pre-school children and pregnant and breastfeeding women, to adequate nutrition; (11) poor access to clean water.
- Strengthening of the response mechanism for crisis situations and natural disasters. (12) shortcomings in the functioning and intervention of DNP/GCA local management committees; (13) lack of a national contingency plan for severe natural disasters.

## 5. IDENTIFIED SOLUTIONS

Twenty-two key solutions were identified and prioritized, based on existing strategy documents and plans. These solutions, which are all identified for short- and long-term implementation target each of the seven types of intervention below:

Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and to equipment: (1) extension of the scope of appropriate mechanisms for the partial or full subsidy of inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and equipment, rotating credit arrangements and the guarantee system for small-scale producers; (2) increase in the number of input shops and equipment, paying due attention to the importance of spatial distribution in line with the needs of small-scale producers (farmers and herders); (3) promotion of local input production (improved seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical (e.g. animal feed) and veterinary products) and equipment.

Sustainable management of land and livestock. (4) extension and support for the adoption of crop diversification and association techniques (secondary crops, fertilizing crops, cereals and legumes, forage crops); for the CES/DRS (demi-lune, banquettes, zai) and adaptation to climatic conditions (short cycle crops, drought and pest-tolerant crops); (5) safety and improvement of sustainable animal management in rural and peri-urban areas against climate hazards (stocking techniques, strategic destocking, development of resistant and productive local species).

Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters) and encouragement of their organization. (6) capacity-building of the structures in charge (INRAN, IPDR, decentralized State services), with a special focus on the recruitment of women; (7) mobilization and training of young rural, uneducated girls/boys (National Volunteer Agency, National Participatory Service, Community Development Training Centre) on advice-support issues; (8) improvement of the technical capacities of small-scale producers and producers' organizations: planning, update of technical manuals and dissemination of their contents through different channels (rural radio, television, listening groups, translation into national languages, etc.).

Improvement of access to water for small-scale producers for their agricultural, livestock, fishing and forestry production needs. (9) extension of the implementation of small-scale irrigation projects for agricultural purposes (such as drip irrigation and plastic film-shielded irrigation networks); (10) increase in the number of livestock watering points in pastoral areas; (11) establishment of suitable financing mechanisms at community level, for small-scale producers.

Strengthening of social safety net for vulnerable households and creation of IGA. (12) harmonization, coordination and implementation of targeting and

2) Vulnerable households are pastoral households, agropastoral households, some agricultural households, women-headed households, etc.



intervention methods for vulnerable groups, and traceability of resources allocated to them (improved mapping of vulnerable areas, identification of vulnerable households, coordination of interveners, etc.) through the use of surveys and participatory assessments; (13) strengthening and implementation of recovery and livelihood restoration programmes for the most vulnerable, particularly women, the youth, old people, the handicapped, nomads and transhumant groups, through the use of adapted social safety nets (cash/food for work) for the creation of rural infrastructures, movement corridors.

Intensification of the fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups and access to clean water. (14) upscaling of IEC/CCC local programmes aimed at: (15) promoting proper feeding practices for infants and young children (breastfeeding, hygiene, nutritional value of local foodstuffs, cooking methods); (16) use of preventive health services; (17) promotion of fortified locally produced foods for malnourished preschool children and children of school age in nomadic areas – e.g. school canteens; (18) improved access to prenatal screening and promotion of maternal nutrition; (19) sinking and rehabilitation of cemented wells, boreholes, pastoral pumping stations and mini clean water supply systems (AEP) in rural and peri-rural areas; promotion of treatment of drinking water in the home; (20) application of adapted stocking technologies, preservation and processing of agropastoral products (solar kiln, silo conservation of green fodder, construction of suitable village community warehouses, hand-operated machinery).

Strengthening of the response mechanism for crisis situations and natural disasters: (21) capacity-building for the functioning, intervention and recovery of local management committees of the National Food Crisis and Mitigation Mechanism (DNP/GCA); (22) formulation of a national multi-risk contingency plan for early warning and management of all possible forms of disaster.

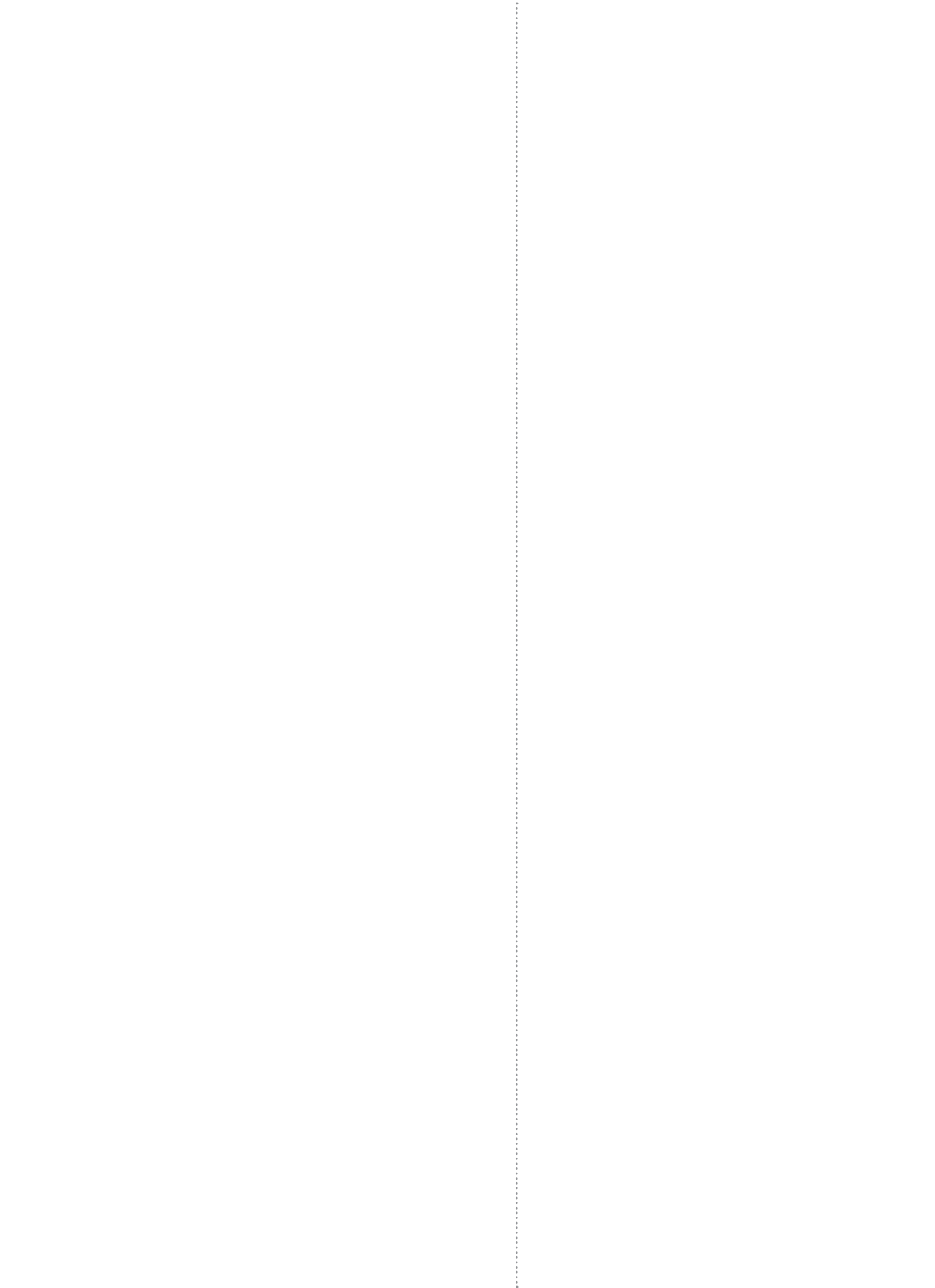
## 6. MAF IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

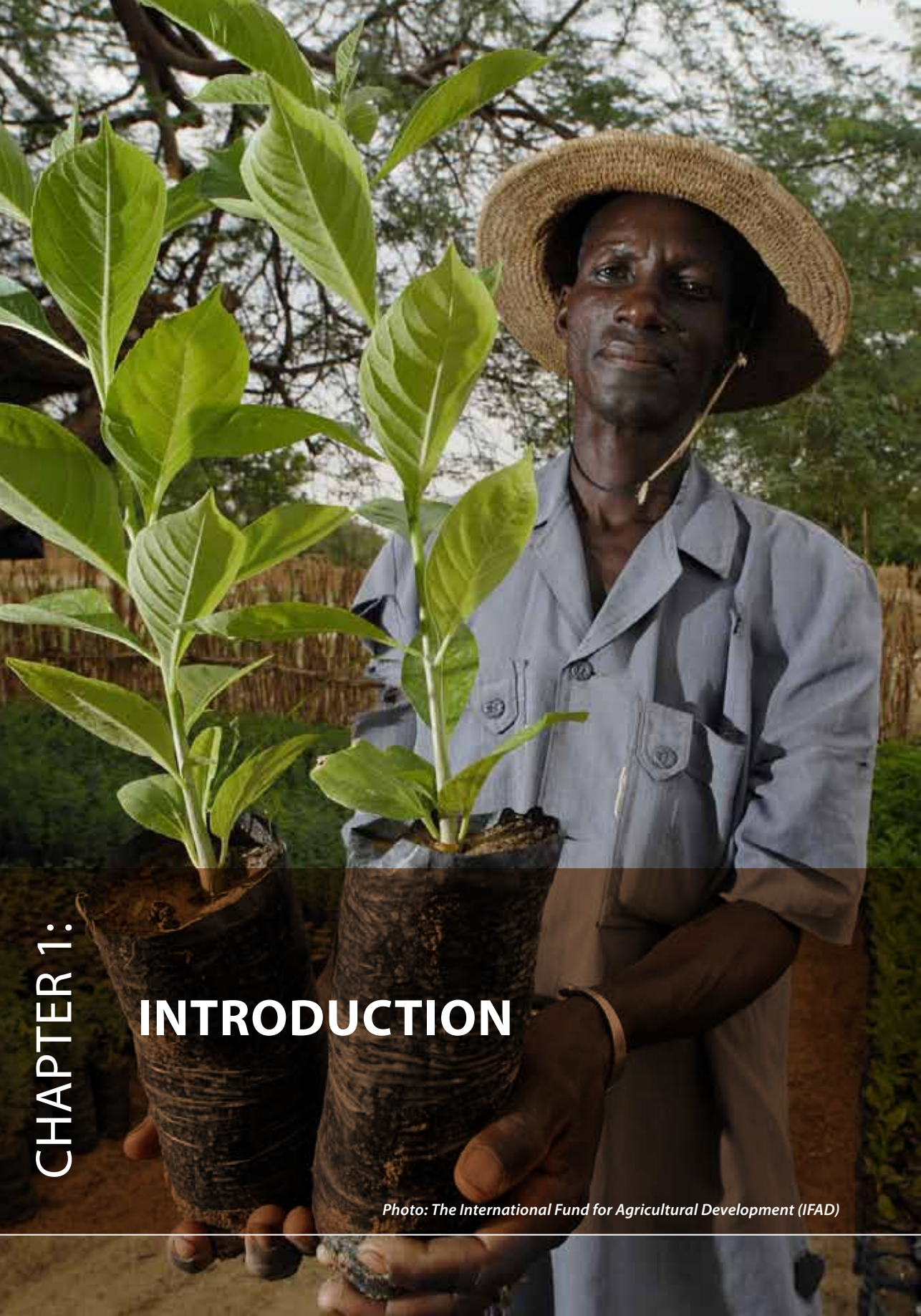
The action plan, which is aligned with the National Agricultural Investment Programme, is one of the main outcomes of the process engaged for the acceleration of MDG 1. It covers the period 2011–2015. Most of the actions extend over a period of five years. The total cost of the five-year plan is estimated at 239 billion African Financial Community Franc FCFA. The amount of funding needed for 2011 is 56.8 billion FCFA, which will be absorbed mainly by the numerous preliminary actions preceding the investments which will follow. Estimates decrease slightly for 2012, standing at 56.7 billion FCFA, and at 56.6 billion for 2013, and falling to 36.6 billion for 2014 and 2015. Financing for the actions approved under the MAF will be sourced from many diverse but complementary stakeholders. These include the State, the Nigerien private sector, development partners including international NGOs. Mobilization of resources from these different sources will have to be a concerted effort. It would be advisable in this regard, to envisage private sector contribution in support of the efforts of the State toward the resolution of the problems of poverty and hunger. It would also be advisable to target those NGOs which are active in the areas of: sustainable use of natural resources for agro-forestry-pastoral production; cereal banks; social safety nets and nutrition.

### Scheduled actions for 2011

Implementation of the 2011 MAF Action Plan is based on a certain number of principles: (i) a high level of ownership by Government and the partners; (ii) commitment on the part of partners identified by the exercise in mobilizing the necessary financing; (iii) a monitoring-evaluation system for the process; (iv) acceptance of the MAF document by all stakeholders in rural development — Ministry for Agriculture and Livestock Rearing (MAGEL), Rural Development Strategy (SDR), Supply Centre (CCA),

High Authority on Food and Nutrition Security (HASA), Technical and Financial Partners (PTF), Rural Development Research Institutes — as a reference point to enable them to more effectively target their financing and technical support sources, in line with the seven key areas of intervention identified within the MAF; (v) repositioning of national strategies and plans in the areas of poverty and food security, in order to take into account the priorities defined in the MAF within the framework of the acceleration of MDG 1.





CHAPTER 1:

**INTRODUCTION**

*Photo: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*

Niger has made relatively slow progress in the area of eradication of poverty and hunger. The incidence of poverty failed to drop significantly between 1992 and 2008, retreating from 63 percent to 59.5 percent, compared to the established target of 31.5 percent.

The most vulnerable population groups are therefore facing a permanent subsistence crisis which is unrelated to food availability.

This state of vulnerability is exacerbated by a series of factors which militate against any significant reduction of poverty in Niger. The most important are: (i) the erratic nature and insufficient level of economic growth; (ii) recurrent food and nutrition crises; (iii) a high population growth rate; and (iv) low agricultural productivity combined with the impact of climate change which renders production unpredictable in a country where more than 80 percent of the population relies on agriculture for its livelihood.

The goal of reducing the proportion of those living below the poverty line to 31.5 percent by 2015 will therefore require a considerable effort by Niger during the period 2011 to 2015.

Against this backdrop, the Millennium Development Goals Acceleration Framework (MDG MAF) constitutes a systematic means by which to identify the bottlenecks slowing down implementation of MDG-based strategies and policies, and devise rapid-impact, well-structured solutions in the form of an action plan designed to streamline and synergize Government and development partner interventions in order to enable Niger realize its priority MDGs.

In the face of persistent food and nutrition insecurity, Niger has chosen to focus its efforts on MDG 1 'Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger', and two of its three targets, namely, 'Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is below \$1 a day' and 'Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger'.

The Government of Niger (GoN) undertook formulation of the MAF using a participatory and systematic process of development and assessment which involved the UNDP and the PTF, representatives of producer organizations (Organisation des Producteurs, OP), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), research centres, the private sector and civil society.

By means of the agreed MAF for MDG 1, Niger has identified the factors which impede progress and has created acceleration solutions. For each of these solutions, a set of interventions has been established and the partners best placed to execute them identified.

This report is structured as follows: (i) progress and challenges in achieving the MDGs in Niger; (ii) priority interventions; (iii) analysis of bottlenecks in priority interventions; (iv) Identification and prioritization of solutions to bottlenecks; (v) action plan for implementing solutions and monitoring-evaluation programme.

3) In Niger, the incidence of poverty was calculated on the basis of a poverty line estimated at 144 750 FCFA in the urban sector and 105 827 FCFA in the rural sector in 2005; 150 933 FCFA in the urban sector and 110 348 FCFA in the rural sector in 2008.





CHAPTER 2:

**PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES  
IN ACHIEVING THE MDGS IN  
NIGER**

*Photo: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*

## 2.1 OVERVIEW OF THE MDGS IN NIGER

In 2007, Niger aligned its Accelerated Development Strategy and Poverty Eradication Strategy (SDRP) 2008–2012 with the MDGs, in accordance with its international commitments. The aim of the SDRP is to reduce poverty in all its forms and to achieve all the MDGs by 2015.

Notwithstanding these efforts, achieving the MDGs remains a serious challenge for Niger. Poverty levels have remained more or less stable over the last two decades and the prevalence of malnutrition has been exacerbated by recurrent food crises. Consequently, the 2010 edition of the national report on the MDGs states that, at the current rate of progress of the target indicators, only MDGs 4 and 6, on the reduction of child mortality and the fight against HIV/AIDS respectively, could be achieved by the 2015 deadline.

The positioning of MDG 1 'Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger' within the MAF is presented on the basis of targets 1.A and 1.C which constitute the two most serious challenges for Niger.

Target 1.A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people living below the poverty line. The incidence of poverty, which stood at 63 percent in 1993, fell to 59.5 percent in 2008. At this rate, it would reach 53.8 percent in 2015 rather than the target of 31.5 percent. Furthermore, huge gaps exist between regions and between urban and rural areas. In the rural sector, the poverty level stands at 63.5 percent compared with 36.5 percent in the urban sector. At the regional level, the rate of poverty is higher in areas of agricultural production (75.4 percent in the Maradi Region, 72.35 percent in Tillabéri Region, 69 percent in Dosso Region) than in regions dedicated to pastoralist activity (45.2 percent in Agadez Region and 15.9 percent in Diffa Region).

Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. The percentage of children under five years old who are underweight was 36 percent in 1992 and fell to 33.7 percent in 2009. It would inevitably reach 29.8 percent, in place of the 18 percent established as the target, if this trend remains stable until 2015.

In general, the populations of Niger are extremely vulnerable to food insecurity especially due to the dependence of the economy on unpredictable weather conditions. The 2010 food crisis therefore affects some 50 percent of the population. It has a severe effect on 22.2 percent of the population. This crisis affects women particularly, as many as 58 percent in the rural sector and 35 percent in the urban sector compared with 48 percent and 25 percent respectively in the case of men.

Food insecurity is most often accompanied by acute nutritional problems which affect significant numbers of children. According to nutrition and survival surveys carried out by the National Statistical Institute (INS), the number of children who are underweight has risen sharply from 40.9 percent in 2009 to 48.9 percent in 2010.

**TABLE 1. OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE MDGS IN NIGER**

Goals	Targets chosen	
1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	1.A. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than a dollar a day	
	1.C. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	
2. Achieve universal primary education	2. Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary education	
3. Promote gender equality and empower women	3.A. Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015	
4. Reduce mortality in children under five years old	4.A. Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	
5. Improve maternal health	5.A. Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	6.A. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS	
	6.C. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases	
7. Ensure environmental sustainability	7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources	
	7.C. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	
	8.B. Address the special needs of the least developed countries	
	8.F. In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications	



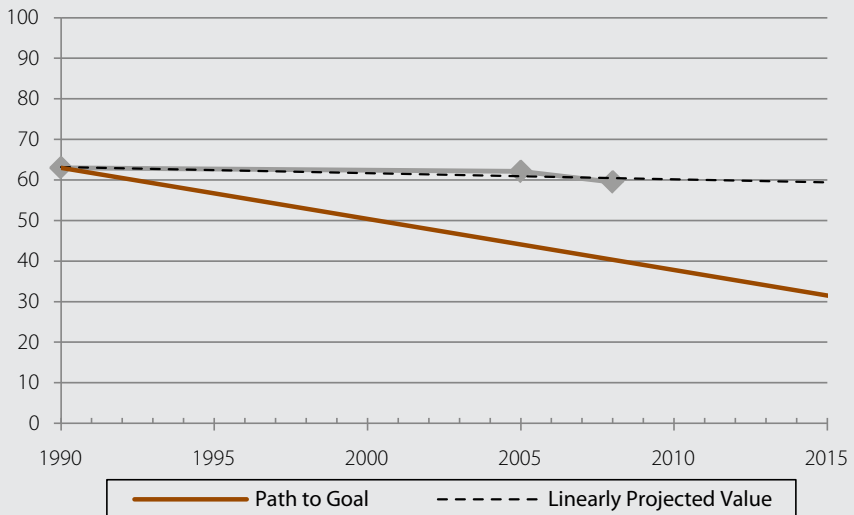
	Indicators chosen	Baseline	Recent level	Trend in 2015	MDG target in 2015
	Proportion of population living below the poverty threshold (%)	63% (1993)	59.5% (2008)	53.80%	31.50%
	Percentage of underweight children under five years of age	36% (1992)	33.7% (2009)	29.8%	18%
	Net enrolment ratio in primary education	-	58.6 (2009)	75%	100%
	Literacy rate of 15–24 year olds, women and men	-	35 (2008)	31.70%	100%
	Ratio girls/boys				
	- Primary	-	0.76 (2008)	0.85	1
	- Secondary	-	0.61(2008)	ND	1
	-Tertiary	-	0.41 (2008)	ND	1
	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament	1.2 (1999)	12.4 (2008)	12.4	50%
	Under-five mortality rate (per thousand)	318.2 (1992)	198 (2006)	112.7	106.1
	Child mortality rate (per thousand)	123.1 (1992)	81 (2006)	33.8	41
	Proportion of one-year-old children immunized against measles	27.8 (1992)	65.5 (2008)	70	100
	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100, 000 births)	652 (1992)	648 (2006)	645.4	175
	Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	14.9 (1992)	34.4(2009)	35	100%
	HIV/AIDS prevalence among populations aged 15-49 years	0.87 (2002)	0.7 (2006)	ND	< 0,7
	Incidence and death rates associated with malaria				
	- Incidence (%)	-	14.3 (2008)		
	- Lethality (%)	-	1.3 (2008)		
	Proportion of land covered by forest (%)	-	5.35 (2008)		
	Total CO2 emissions (Gg)	8 912.06 (1990)	19 329.94 (2000)		
	Consumption of ozone depleting substances (ODP) in metric tons	8912.06 (1990)	19 329.94 (2000)		
	Proportion of the population using an improved drinking water source (%)	-	50.1 (2008)		
		-	11.8 (2008)		
	State aid for development as % of GDP	16 (1990)	11.3 (2008)		
	Debt service as % of exports	19 (1990)	18.6 (2007)		
	Telephone lines per 100 population	2.17 (2000)	0.48 (2008)		
	Cellular subscribers per 100 population	4.6 (2005)	20.6 (2008)		
	Internet users per 100 population	ND	1.3 (2008)		

## 2.2 ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELIHOOD OF ACHIEVING THE MDGS IN THE RURAL SECTOR

In Niger, poverty is largely a rural phenomenon although it also affects peri-urban zones. Based on current trends, the incidence of poverty is likely to remain particularly high in rural areas (figure 1). As such, it is considered necessary to implement innovative solutions which, with the support of the country's technical and financial partners, will make it possible to address the causes of the low rate of progress in eradicating poverty.

Five years away from the deadline established for achieving the MDGs, implementing the acceleration framework for MDG 1 would constitute an appropriate response capable of overcoming the major, interrelated, challenges which slow down the promotion of development. It would also give a decisive boost to the MDGs enabling them to have a tangible effect in terms of economic and social progress to the benefit of the most vulnerable populations in developing countries.

**FIGURE 1** PROPORTION OF RURAL POPULATION BELOW POVERTY THRESHOLD (ACTUAL AND DESIRED TRENDS, 1990–2015)



Source: National Report on progress in achieving the MDGs, Niger 2010.

## 2.3 PROGRESS IN REDUCING MALNUTRITION

Young children in Niger face malnutrition in all its forms which impedes their growth and development and often threatens their survival. The nutrition situation of children under five years old remains worrying and has not improved in the past five years.

In effect, between 2005 and 2010, around one child in ten suffered acute malnutrition. In 2005 and in 2010, two years which saw a food and nutrition crisis, acute malnutrition affected one child in seven, exceeding the emergency threshold. The situation is

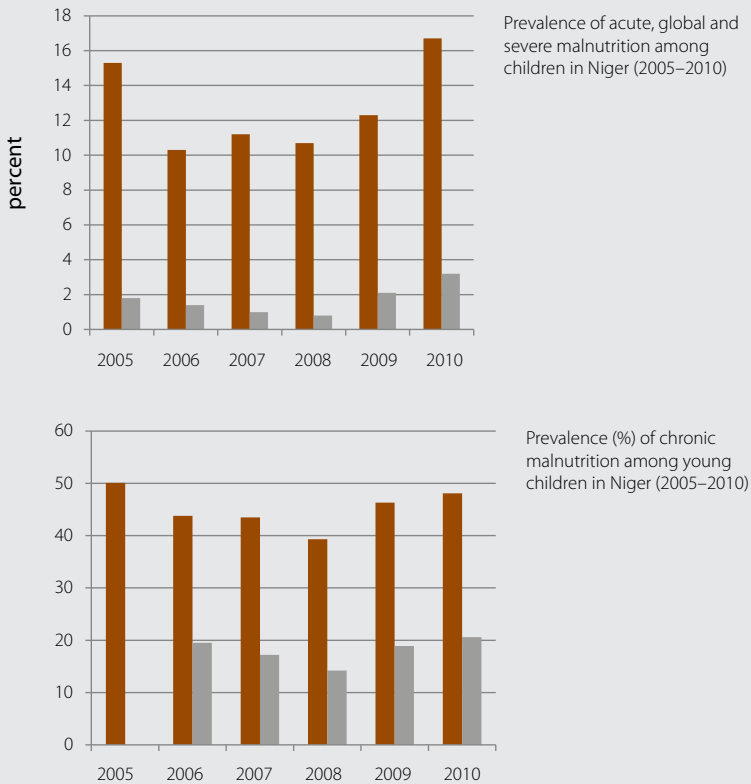
even more worrying among the youngest children, under two years old. In this group, one child in four suffers acute malnutrition.

Chronic malnutrition is also a public health issue in Niger as it affects one in two children. This trend has remained steady since 2005 (39 to 50 percent).

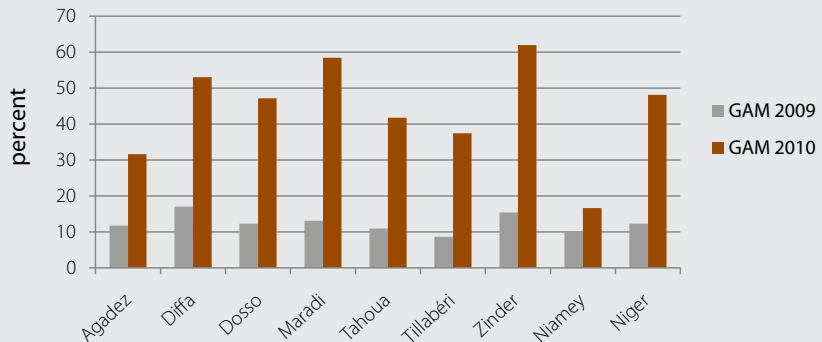
As with acute and chronic malnutrition, being underweight is very common among young children in Niger. Between 2005 and 2010, rates varied between 40 and 43 percent. All the regions of Niger were affected in the years 2009 and 2010 (figure 3).

**FIGURE 2**

**PREVALENCE OF ACUTE, GLOBAL AND SEVERE AND CHRONIC MALNUTRITION, 2005-2010**



Source: Reports on nutrition and survival surveys among children, 2009-2010.

**FIGURE 3****PREVALENCE OF GLOBAL ACUTE MALNUTRITION, 2005–2010**

Source: Reports on nutrition and survival surveys among children, 2009-2010.

While the causes of the malnutrition are many and varied to the primary reason is the structural food insecurity confronting Niger. Some other factors are discussed below.

### Inappropriate practices in feeding infants and young children

The practices in feeding infants and young children in Niger are inappropriate. In effect, the practice of exclusive maternal breastfeeding, the guarantee of a good start in life, has remained very uncommon, below 10 percent until 2009 before rising to 26 percent in 2010, a rate which remains too low to produce a significant impact at the national level.

Only one in two children receives complementary feeding at the appropriate time. Furthermore, the quality of the complementary foodstuffs is often poor and the quantities given to children, along with the frequency of feeding, are incompatible with normal growth and development. Finding good quality complementary foodstuffs is a challenge in Niger as available options are limited.

### Aggravating factors

Limited access to drinking water and inadequate environmental hygiene aggravate the situation for infants and young children. Only 8.4 percent of households have a latrine. Defecation in the open, use of non-potable water for drinking and food preparation, and the lack of bodily hygiene facilitate diseases including diarrhoea and malaria, two of the three main killers of children.

The weakness of the health system and the low levels of usage of health services only exacerbate the nutrition of young children in Niger.

### Targeting methods

Since the food and nutrition crisis of 2005, Niger has conducted a national nutrition survey at least once a year. Additionally, efforts are made to supplement the provision of health services with a systematic screening programme of cases of malnutrition and their treatment. Progressive implementation of the policy for integrating care of malnutrition cases

among the health services is contributing to the consolidation of this initiative. Furthermore, the NGOs which work in malnutrition contribute greatly to the identification and care of malnutrition cases in Niger.

Conversely, the screening campaigns for cases of acute malnutrition among children aged 6 to 59 months are only organized at the community level during the hunger gap (between harvests), either by the health service or by the NGOs, particularly in the areas identified as vulnerable by the national nutrition survey.

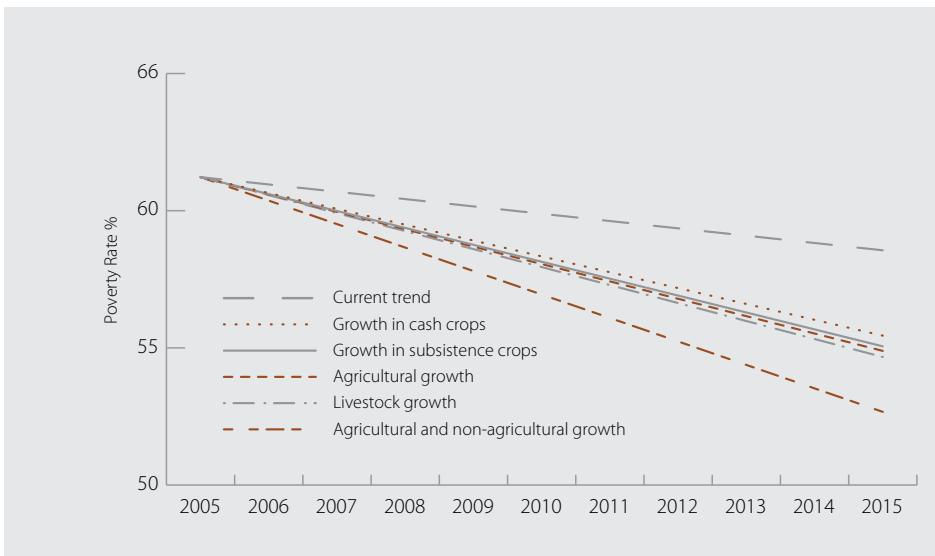
## 2.4 POTENTIAL EFFECT ON OTHER MDGS OF IMPROVING AGRO-PASTORAL PRODUCTIVITY

In line with the Rural Development Strategy and its action plan, Niger has made the rural sector

(agriculture, livestock rearing, forestry, wildlife and fishing resources) the main driver of economic growth. The rural sector represents 43 percent of GDP (2002–2006); 44 percent of export revenues; 80 percent of current employment; and 83 percent of the total population of the country in terms of revenues and jobs.

The importance of the rural sector in improving the living conditions of rural populations is supported by a study conducted by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) at the request of Niger on the occasion of the roundtable on the National Programme for Agricultural Investment (PNIA)/SDR. The study showed that growth in rural production (plants, animals and non-farming products) has an almost linear correlation with the reduction in the rate of poverty (figure 4).

**FIGURE 4** CORRELATION BETWEEN POVERTY AND GROWTH OF RURAL PRODUCTION



Source: MAF Niger, 2010, according to IFPRI Study, 2007.



CHAPTER 3:

**STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS**

*Photo: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*

### 3.1 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Rural development policies are implemented through the SRP adopted by the government in January 2002 and revised in 2007 under the title Accelerated Development and Poverty Eradication Strategy (SDRP). However, these strategies were not able to prevent the recurrence of food crises in 2004/2005 and 2009/2010 that affected between 3.5 and 7.1 million people.

According to the second State of the Environment Report of Niger, published in October 2009, the impoverishment of the Nigerien population is the result of a precarious socio-economic situation characterized by poor progress of human development indicators including those linked to food security and poverty.

Structural factors such as drought, climate change, the high level of poverty, rapidly increasing population and weakness in governance exacerbate the circumstantial factors and cause recurrent food and nutrition crises which State interventions have difficulty in curbing. It therefore appears that adapting to climate change is also a condition sine qua non for world food security which must be integrated into national policies.

The overall objective assigned to the SDRP is to improve the well-being of all Nigeriens by eradicating poverty in all its manifestations and achieving all the MDGs by 2015.

Within the SDRP framework, the general objective assigned to the rural sector through the SDR is to "reduce the incidence of rural poverty from 66 percent to 52 percent by 2015" by creating conditions for sustainable economic and social development which guarantee food security and security of populations and sustainable management of natural resources. This general objective dovetails with the overall objective of the SRP, i.e. reducing the inci-

dence of poverty to below 50 percent for the whole Nigerien population.

For this purpose, the SDR frame of reference for all the interventions in the sector is structured into three strategic lines:

- facilitation of access to economic opportunities for persons in rural areas, to create conditions of sustainable economic growth in the rural sector.
- anticipation of risks, improvement food security and sustainable management of natural resources to stabilize living conditions of people.
- capacity-building for public institutions and rural organizations to improve management in the rural sector.

The institutional structures for implementing strategies for reducing poverty and hunger depend on different organizations. They include the Permanent Secretariat for the Poverty Eradication Strategy; the interministerial steering committee for the SDR; the National Committee for the Prevention and Management of Food Crises; the SDR Technical Committee for Rural Development; the steering committees for SDR programmes; and the coordination frameworks for SDR programmes at the national and regional level and interdisciplinary working groups (sectoral groups).

Within the procedural framework of the Detailed Development Programme for Agriculture in Africa and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (PDDAA/NEPAD), the PNIA has been closely linked to 14 SDR programmes.

**TABLE 2.** PROFILE OF RURAL POVERTY AND AGRICULTURAL/PASTORAL FARMING BY REGION IN NIGER

Region	Population in 2008	Rural population in 2008	Population and rural poverty	Main produce
Agadez	442,874	200,274	3.1% of total population	Potato, onion, garlic, cattle, camelids, small ruminants
			Low population density	
			45.2% rural population	
			Low poverty rate (%)	
Diffa	442,998	367,890	3.1% of total population	millet, maize, sorghum, cowpeas, peppers, sorrel, cattle, camelids
			Low population density	
			83% rural population	
			Low poverty rate (15.9%)	
Dosso	1,897,604	1,718,780	13.4% of total population	millet, maize, sorghum, cowpeas, onion, sesame, okra, groundnut, cattle, small ruminants (sheep, goats)
			Medium population density	
			90.6% rural population	
			High poverty (68.8%)	
Maradi	2,835,292	2,472,223	20% of total population	millet, maize, sorghum, cowpeas, onion, sesame, okra, groundnut, cattle, small ruminants (sheep, goats)
			High population density	
			87.2% rural population	
			Very high poverty (75.4%)	
Tahoua	2,496,659	2,203,957	17.6% of total population	millet, maize, sorghum, cowpeas, onion, sesame, okra
			High population density	
			88.3% rural population	
			Moderate poverty (58.3%)	
Tillabéri	2,361,117	2,245,250	16.6% of total population	millet, maize, sorghum, cowpeas, onion, sesame, okra
			Medium population density	
			95.1% rural population	
			Very significant poverty (72.35%)	
Zinder	2,647,010	2,260,686	18.6% of total population	millet, maize, sorghum, cowpeas, onion, sesame, okra
			High population density	
			85.4% rural population	
			Moderate poverty (55.3%)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,197,600</b>	<b>11,469,060</b>	<b>80.8% total population</b>	

Source: National Statistical Institute (INS).



### 3.2 SELECTION OF INTERVENTIONS WITH THE POTENTIAL TO ACCELERATE TARGETS 1.A AND 1.C OF MDG 1

The main indicators relating to availability, accessibility and use of food resources by the populations show that Niger is unable to guarantee a sufficient, balanced diet to the whole population. In addition to the chronic food shortage of certain sections of the population, underpinned by chronic poverty, each drought brings with it a new, serious food crisis.

The recorded outcomes of food security policies clearly fall short of expectations despite the increasing number of social partners and actors in the field and the investments undertaken. Part of the reason is that these efforts do not pay enough attention to infrastructure, in particular improving irrigation.

The main structural causes of food insecurity and, consequently, rural poverty in Niger are:

- the ongoing deterioration of productive capital: land, plant resources, water and livestock;
- strong demographic growth;
- low levels of education and literacy among communities, including insufficient number of teachers;
- low value ascribed to local technologies and those resulting from scientific research for the benefit of producers;
- inappropriate management of resources;
- fragmentation of the institutional framework, poor coordination of interventions, too many initiatives, low level of involvement in decision-making mechanisms on the part of stakeholders;
- insufficient valorization and poor utilization of human resources.

Current and future strategic policies and interventions addressing these causes must focus on the following aspects:

- promotion of easier access to production factors in the rural areas (land, water, inputs, equipment);
- supervision of rural producers in order to prepare them to accept a level of technological skill capable of transforming current practices;
- valorization and optimal utilization of human resources in the rural sector;
- good governance in institutions responsible for boosting rural development.

Further to the acceleration of the achievement of MDG 1 in Niger, the key interventions previously aligned with the PNIA/SDR objectives, and selected by consent in order to remove or diminish the most serious constraints affecting the achievement of food security and poverty eradication, have been classified according to the following areas of activity:

- improvement of access to inputs, equipment and sustainable land management;
- supervision of small-scale producers and valorization of research findings;
- protection of vulnerable agropastoral households and livestock;
- diversification and improvement of the quality of food consumption;
- improvement of access to foodstuffs in rural and peri-urban areas.

These five selected areas for key interventions are rather general in character: as such they should be effective in identifying priority interventions which are then translated into actions to respond to the concerns of small producers.

## Box 1: Strategic interventions for accelerating achievement of targets 1.A and 1.C of MDG 1

### Improvement of access to inputs, equipment and sustainable land management techniques

- Development of appropriate mechanisms for the partial or full subsidy of inputs and equipment, rotating credit arrangements and extension of the guarantee system;
- Implementation of a network (geographical coverage) of input shops adapted to the needs of producers;
- Strengthening the resilience of products through crop diversification and association; water conservation and protection and sustainable restoration of soils (demi-lune, banquettes, associated crops, fertilizer crops, agricultural/livestock coupling, manure, compost, etc.) and utilization of meteorological forecasts for agro-forestry-pastoral planning;
- Promotion of effective and efficient livestock management in rural and peri-urban sectors (destockage techniques, genetic selection, use of resistant local species, red goats of Maradi, Balami sheep, Azawak cattle, Bororo cattle, Diffa kouri [cattle], partial/total stabling, mobility, etc.)

### Supervision of small-scale producers and valorization of research results

- Recruitment, recycling, redeployment and equipping of supervisory personnel (acquisition of mobile equipment, communications equipment, etc.) in agropastoral sites; mobilization and training of rural and uneducated young people (National Volunteering Agency for Development in Niger) with the aim of including them in rural production activities (farming, livestock, fishing, forestry, etc.);
- Building capacities of OPs, research structures, dissemination (technical training factsheets on: small-scale control and management of water; market gardening and out-of-season crops, water pumping tools, protection of irrigated areas and composting) and information and communications (rural radio, television, mobile telephones, etc.) to support local management.

### Protection of vulnerable agropastoral households and livestock

- Harmonization, coordination and implementation of targeting methods (improved mapping of vulnerable areas, identification of vulnerable households, coordination of interveners, etc.) through the use of surveys and participatory assessments at local level;
- Implementation of cash/food for work programmes for the creation of rural infrastructures, especially for young people and women;
- Implementation of recovery and livelihood restoration programmes of the most vulnerable, particularly women and young people through adapted social safety nets (targeted distribution of free food, direct subsidies, therapeutic food programmes, cereal banks, sale of cereals at controlled prices, school canteens, food supplies for education/training/basic literacy training).

### Diversification and improvement of the quality of food consumption

- Implementation of local programmes in Information, Education and Communication for Behavioural Change through creation and translation into local languages of technical fact sheets to spread awareness and educate people about the nutrition value of foods, cooking methods, water quality and consumer protection; strengthening the role of women in managing food resources, implementing social protection networks;
- Promotion of undervalued secondary crops adapted to semi-arid and arid climates (wheat, potato, earth peas, nut grass, sorrel, pigeon peas, Sahelian apples, sesame, etc.) and ongoing production of sorghum, cowpeas, maize and legumes;
- Sinking and rehabilitation of wells, boreholes with pumps, AEP in rural and peri-urban areas; promotion of treatment of drinking water in the home.

### Improvement of access to foodstuffs in rural and peri-urban areas

- Application of adapted stockage technologies, preservation and processing of agropastoral products; (solar kiln, silo conservation of green fodder, construction of suitable village community warehouses, hand-operated processing machinery, village mills, etc.).

**TABLE 3.** ALIGNMENT OF SELECTED MAF PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS WITH THE SDR

SDR programmes	SDR sub-programmes	SDR programme objectives	MAF priority interventions
1. 'Local and community development' programme		Support for decentralization through a gradual transfer of powers to communities and implementation of national and regional land management mechanisms	Sustainable management of land and livestock
2. 'Local governance of natural resources' programme		Sustainable management of natural resources by strengthening mechanisms for local governance of natural resources (rural land management, integrated management of water resources, etc.)	
3. 'Professional organizations and structuring of networks' programme	· Professional coordination framework	Strengthening structure and capacities of operators from different networks in a scheme to promote production and exports	Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters) and encouragement of their organization
	· Strengthening and structuring professional organizations		
	· Initiating agricultural, forestry and pastoral products		
	· Capacity-building for economic agents and developing the fabric of the rural economy		
4. 'Rural infrastructure' programme	· Hydroagricultural infrastructure	Creation of public infrastructure to achieve equitable cover of rural population needs	
	· Transport infrastructure		
	· Communication infrastructure		
	· Rural electrification		
5. 'Rural finance systems' programme		Developing the network of microfinance institutions and activities of commercial banks in the rural sector as well as creating an agricultural development bank	Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and to equipment
6. 'Research, dissemination, training' programme		Promoting synergy between research, dissemination and technical and professional training taking into account the needs and demands of producers	Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers and encouragement of their organization
7. 'Strengthening public institutions in the rural sector' programme	· Restructuring of public institutions in the rural sector	Boosting and strengthening the quality of public action	
	· Information and knowledge systems for the rural sector	Developing information systems and systems for monitoring-evaluation	
8. 'Drinking water and sanitation' programme		Developing access to drinking water and sanitation	Improvement of access to water for small-scale producers for their agricultural, livestock, fishing and forestry production needs
9. 'Reducing vulnerability of households' programme	· Prevention and management of crises and natural disasters	Predicting and managing situations of crises and natural disasters	Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of IGA

SDR programmes	SDR sub-programmes	SDR programme objectives	MAF priority interventions
9. 'Reducing vulnerability of households' programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Health-Nutrition</li> <li>· Increasing revenues of the most vulnerable</li> </ul>	Implementing safety nets for the most vulnerable, especially by creating an agency for rural works	<p>Intensification of the fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups and access to clean water</p> <p>Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households and creation of IGA</p>
10. 'Environmental conservation' programme		Encouraging rural stakeholders to implement more sustainable practices	Sustainable management of land and livestock
		Reversing genetic erosion phenomena and combating serious deteriorations in this area in line with international conventions	Improving basic supervision of small-scale producers
11. 'Combat food insecurity through development and irrigation' programme		Promoting development of agropastoral farms	Small-scale management and control of water for production
		Increasing food availability and accessibility	Strengthening of the response mechanism for crisis situations and natural disasters
		Increasing the volume of agricultural exports	Improvement of access to inputs and equipment
12. 'Pastoral management and safeguarding of pastoral systems' programme		Construction of pastoral hydraulic systems, creating movement corridors and pastoral enclaves	Sustainable management of land and livestock
		Improving the functioning of networks and guaranteeing sustainability of production systems	Improvement of access to inputs and equipment
13. 'Land restoration and reforestation' programme		<p>Improving management of water and land conservation</p> <p>Encouraging reforestation, taking into account sustainability and profitability of investments at the same time as meeting demand for wood as fuel and for building and crafts</p>	Sustainable management of land and livestock
14. 'Kandadji: ecosystems regeneration and development of the River Niger Valley' programme		<p>Preservation and regeneration of fluvial ecosystems through support during the dry water season, by constructing the dam at Kandadji</p> <p>Developing irrigable surfaces, valorization, safeguarding and development of opportunities for agricultural, forestry and pastoral production</p>	Diversification and consumption of foods high in nutritional value and access to clean water

Table 3 shows the relationship of all the interventions included in the MAF and the SDR programmes. Some of these interventions are currently underway but in a context which is still not favourable to achieving the MDGs.

But, as table 4 shows, agricultural productivity could potentially be improved by attention to the following production factors:

- provision of improved inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, animal feed, vaccines, etc.);
- strengthening crop resilience;
- promoting effective and efficient livestock management;
- improving water management and control.

The table shows that possibilities exist for increasing outputs of millet, sorghum, cowpeas, maize, rice and groundnuts. If producers used a technology-efficient system (10-15 kg/ha of selected seeds, 100-200 kg/ha of fertilizers, 3-5 litres/ha of pesticides, optimum crop maintenance, timely harvest and storage, seasonal credit, etc.) it would be possible to produce a supply of cereals needed to feed around 50 million people,

on average, per year. This compares with only 12 million people when a rural production system is used. (Population estimated at 15 million in 2010.)

However, when extrapolating on the basis of results obtained in research stations, it should be remembered that the technical, economic, social, institutional and organizational systems of the rural sector must also be taken into account.

In the context of the intensification of rural productivity and a population growth rate (3.3 percent) which produces an increased demand for cereal products of around 500,000 tons annually, the low level of spending in the rural sector (around 10 percent of agricultural GDP) means that increasing productivity is largely a question of increasing the surface area of production: this means extending either into lands not in agricultural use or lands used for pasturing with the probability of conflict between farmers and herders.

This trend to increase land area brings challenges such as drought or attack by pests (locusts, caterpillars, seed-eating birds, etc.) which can contribute significantly to reducing available surfaces, as they did in the drought years in 2004, 2007 and 2009.

**TABLE 4. OUTPUTS AND PRODUCTION OF MAIN CROPS IN THE RURAL SECTOR AND IN RESEARCH STATIONS**

Crops	Farming sector		Research centre		GAP (%)
	Output (t/ha)	Production (t)	Output (t/ha)	Production (t)	
<b>Millet</b>	0.452	2,749,438	0.8-1.5	6,668,455	142
<b>Sorghum</b>	0.333	855,016	2-4	7,622,620	791
<b>Cowpeas</b>	0.183	771,678	1-2	6,081,688	688
<b>Maize</b>	0.895	8,975	6-7	65,182	626
<b>Rice</b>	4.0	82,335	7-10	175,710	113
<b>Groundnuts</b>	0.443	170,327	1,5-3	862,177	406

*Note: Average production and outputs calculated on the basis of 2002-09 data from the Directorate of Agricultural Statistics/MAGEL*

However, fluctuations in production and cultivated areas are dependent on rainfall levels alone. They are also the consequence of other factors such as land fertilization, availability of production inputs (fertilizers, adapted strains, pesticides) and technical considerations (seed density, respect for weeding, harrowing and other cultivation phases, etc.). This combination of controllable factors (inputs) and

non-controllable (rainfall) does not suit productions which involve a strategy of managing cultivated areas in such a way as to minimize risks. This traditional farming system of risk management means that the volume of cereals produced (particularly millet) is entirely dependent on the surface areas cultivated.

**TABLE 5.** SUMMARY OF PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS

MDG	MDG indicators	Key interventions	Priority interventions
MDG 1 Target 1.a: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than a dollar a day	1.a.1. Proportion of population living below the poverty threshold	A. Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and to equipment and sustainable management of land and livestock	a.1. Improvement of access to inputs and equipment
			a.2. Sustainable management of land and livestock
		B. Advice-support for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters) and evaluation of the results of the research	b.1. Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers and encouragement of their organization
			b.2. Improvement of access to water for small-scale producers for their agricultural, livestock, fishing and forestry production needs
OMD1: Target 1.c. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	1.c.1. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption	C. Protection of vulnerable agropastoral households and livestock	c.1. Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of IGA
	1.c.2. Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age	D. Diversification and improvement of the quality of food consumption	d.1. Intensification of the fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups and access to clean water
		E. Improvement of access to foodstuffs in rural and peri-urban areas.	e.1. Strengthening of the response mechanism for crisis situations and natural disasters

Actions to protect the environment and fight against desertification, although limited, given the scale of deterioration, are also instrumental in efforts to develop the production base. This indicates the need to create conditions for prudent management of natural resources, to restore degraded lands and to adapt to climate change, protect biodiversity and establish an environmental database.

Developing means of subsistence for small-scale producers and strengthening their capacity to escape

from chronic food insecurity requires agricultural policies which give populations some leeway so that they can benefit from the liberalization taking place. The stagnation in the productivity of subsistence crops stems from the shortage of capital and the low investment capacity of producers and not from a lack of opportunity. Valorization of the sector requires a greater representation of agriculture in the commercial sector.





CHAPTER 4:

**ANALYSIS  
OF BOTTLENECKS**

*Photo: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*



The review of the agricultural sector and strategies already in place reveals a host of suggested interventions for achieving the two targets of MDG 1 related to eradicating poverty and hunger. The multiplicity of interventions, often difficult to implement in Niger, requires an effort of coordination and prioritization if rapid impacts are to be expected in the short and medium term. Furthermore, with reference to the objectively measurable indicators for achieving MDG 1 by the 2015 deadline, seven intervention areas were judged to be the highest priorities for MAF Niger.

However, an analysis of the levels of implementation of these priority interventions concluded that outcomes were limited, inasmuch as some 65 percent of the rural population were still living below the monetary poverty threshold in 2009. Furthermore, the proportion of households vulnerable to food insecurity and the level of malnutrition among children remain at worrying levels.

Resolving the issue therefore requires understanding and ranking the principal constraints or bottlenecks responsible for the general failure in implementation. The MAF process, which is participatory and consensual, has made it possible to identify and classify these bottlenecks according to priority intervention area. Prioritization of these bottlenecks is based mainly on the scope of their impact and the possibility of removing them through the application of specific solutions. The bottlenecks in the seven priority intervention areas are discussed below.

#### **4.1. IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO INPUTS AND EQUIPMENT**

Notwithstanding the efforts undertaken in recent years by the government with the support of development partners, the difficulty which rural producers still face in accessing inputs constitutes one of the weak links in agropastoral productivity. This accounts for the low level usage of seeds, mineral fertilizers

and zootechnical inputs exacerbated by poor use of agricultural machinery.

In the case of seeds, the average use for the last 23 years has been a modest 5 kg/ha. In reality, the level of use has seen a decreasing trend inasmuch as volumes were greater in the second half of the 1970s and 1980s, a period of great productivity projects (national cereals project, regional productivity projects). The absence of these projects or their equivalents since then has reduced physical and financial access to seeds for rural producers. This situation is exacerbated by the failure of the scheme to increase the availability of improved seeds in research institutions owing to insufficient funding and supervision (INRAN, SNRA).

Average use of mineral fertilizers by rural producers is 4 kg/ha compared with the recommended minimum of 25 kg/ha. This low use is due to their high cost: there are no subsidies available and there is frequent scarcity on the market. Land in Niger is gradually losing its fertility due especially to farming practices (monoculture); the insufficient use of mineral manures (8 kg/ha compared with 50 kg/ha as advised by the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS) and organic manures (less than one ton per hectare); and successive droughts, water and wind erosion. The supply of mineral fertilizers to producers is currently guaranteed through three channels: the Supply Centre established by the State which meets, on average, half the demand for fertilizers; the warranty scheme established with the support of the PTF, including the FAO, which improves networking in input shops; and private enterprise, which is largely informal.

In the case of phytosanitary products, the government provides a full subsidy for large surface area crops (millet, sorghum). But the other equally important crops (cowpeas, rice, vegetables) are covered by the financial resources of farmers. Yet, only 40 percent of protection requirements for vegetables were met in the period 1994–2005 and this was

thanks to additional support from Niger's bilateral and multilateral partners. In addition to insufficient coverage of crops, there is a high risk of counterfeit phytosanitary products available in the market. Despite the potential adverse impact on the environment and human health, pest control remains a major factor for increasing the productivity of crops.

Livestock products occupy the second place in Niger's exports. The absence of an animal health service in most areas has led to the resurgence of certain diseases (vaccines). Animal feed is often difficult to find and is subject to speculation on the markets in pastoral areas (cotton seeds, flour, etc.). The animal feed supply chain is largely informal. Livestock vaccination is provided annually by public services and licensed health operators. It should be noted that significant efforts have been made in the structuring of livestock farmers' organizations. However, these have little capacity to organize the supply of zoot-technical and veterinary inputs.

The use of agricultural machinery (animal traction vehicles, tractors, seed drills, small machinery) among farmers is almost negligible. Taking into account all items of equipment for agricultural work, the result is less than one item of agricultural equipment per 10,000 hectares. Beyond the artisanal agricultural equipment available to small-scale farmers such as hoes, hilaires (longer-handled hoes), and dabas (short-handled hoes), other types of useful and effective equipment are not accessible to them for reasons of physical availability (manufacturing units with low productivity) and financial reasons (little credit).

The weak buying power of small producers; lack of coverage on the part of grassroots funding schemes in the rural sector; and poor viability of public and private distribution networks are all constraints to the access to inputs by small-scale producers.

Two serious bottlenecks result from these structural factors:

- poor financial access by producers to purchase inputs and equipment;
- poor physical access by producers to inputs and equipment (availability of stocks, distance from sales points, input shops, etc.).

The bottleneck relating to financial access highlights the problems of public policies and planning and also of financing input supply services. In the case of the second bottleneck, these problems are linked to the planning and budgets of small-scale producers.

## 4.2 SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND LIVESTOCK

In Niger, the land is very fragile owing to constraints which are largely related to the Sahelian climate: high temperatures; brief, irregular and erosive rainfall (average pluviometric deficit of 20 percent, at times above 30 percent in certain regions); frequent sand storms, plagues of crop predators; epidemics and epizootics, etc. Added to this, human activity further weakens the agricultural, agropastoral and pastoralist ecosystems, frequently with an imbalance between needs and resources which leads inexorably to breaking point.

In the case of agricultural land (11 percent of total surface area), the rise in population and difficulty in accessing production means requires an annual increase of surface area for farming by some 100,000 hectares (and consequently the equivalent loss in forests). This compares to a reforestation effort which did not exceed 5400 ha/year between 1980 and 2005.

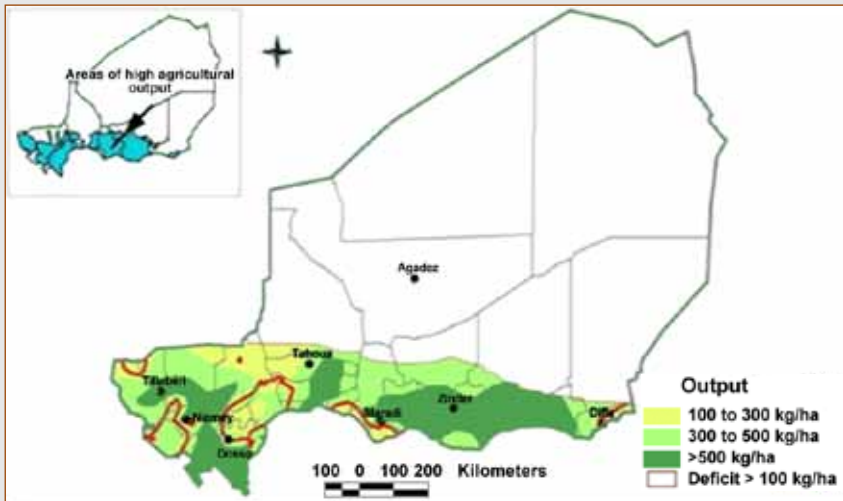
In the case of livestock, estimated at 11 million TLU in 2007, extending over an agropastoral area and a pastoral area of 620,000 km<sup>2</sup>, the principal constraints include difficulties in feeding and herding animals, persistence of pathologies, low levels of technical and technological investment, seasonal migrations which are costly in terms of time and human resources, difficulties in safeguarding the animals, very high costs of creating a sound network of water points and pasturage, and strong competition for the use of natural resources.

The deterioration caused by these various factors is mainly evident in the following changes to the land:

- formation of vast bare glacia (slopes) which facilitate water erosion;

- formation and enlargement of wadis and ravines, often among cultivated lands;
- formation of mobile dunes which present one of the most acute problems of land degradation and which are particularly prevalent in the east of the country;
- sand affecting croplands, water courses, agricultural production basins, and socio-economic infrastructure (roads, dwelling places, etc.);
- salinization of agricultural lands, especially those subject to irrigation;
- leaching of nutrients and soil crusting;
- decrease in plant cover and loss of biodiversity.

**FIGURE 5** PROFILE OF AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT OF NIGER



The effects of this degradation in its various forms are naturally apparent in the disruption of production systems; the drop in rural production (especially agricultural, pastoralist and forestry-related); the loss of household incomes; and persistent food insecurity to the point at which one has to ask if 'the land still sustains its people'.

Thus, a major bottleneck affects sustainable management of land and livestock: the extreme vulnerability of agropastoral production to climatic conditions. This bottleneck is also evident in the low productivity level in agropastoral production and affects policy, supply planning and service use.

### **4.3. IMPROVEMENT IN ADVICE-SUPPORT MEASURES FOR SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THEIR ORGANIZATIONS**

Since the closure of the National Agricultural Research Programme (PNRA) and the Programme to Strengthen Support Services for Agriculture (PRSAA) in 1998, there has no longer been coordinated supervision in this area. The State no longer recruits experts and the funding for INRAN, the main national agricultural research institution, has remained at the same level for over ten years. Research and dissemination activities are barely coordinated within the National System for Agricultural Research (SNRA) which is, in itself, fragmentary and non-operational.

In addition to the problems of technology transfer experienced by research and dissemination institutions, there are the problems which affect producers directly: poor level of education (less than 60 percent rate of enrolment in primary education) and literacy (less than 20 percent); low incomes and poor income management; cultural burdens (women are very under-represented in processes of adopting

technology and technology transfer and in decision-making), and so on.

Given these conditions, the bottleneck affecting supervision of small producers is clearly significant, i.e., the inadequacy of means (human, material, financial and technical) by which to disseminate available technologies. It will be necessary to address not only problems in public policies and planning but also the problems in finance for the supply of input services and service use, given the low technical capacity of producers.

### **4.4. IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO WATER FOR SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS**

Given the context of the Sahel and the Sahara, the availability of water for rural production remains a major problem in Niger.

Potentially, there is water: 30 billion cubic metres per year of surface water (less than 1 percent exploited); 2.5 billion cubic metres in subsurface water (difficult to exploit owing to the extreme depth of productive groundwater).

Notwithstanding the significant potential of this water, the low level of valorization of these resources in Niger is linked to the high cost of investment (hydro-agricultural installations, pastoral hydraulics), unsustainable charges in the revenues of producers, poor choices in water management technology (motor pump instead of hand-operated pump), poor organization among producers, and so on.

Furthermore, in pastoral areas, there is a very serious problem of the availability of water points for watering livestock owing to the huge size of the territory and poor networking.

In this situation, the following bottlenecks exist: low capacity of agricultural producers to access and use irrigation and cultivation techniques; low capacity for acquiring equipment and installations needed for production activities, and poor networking of water points for livestock. These bottlenecks arise principally from problems related to public policies and planning, budget and funding, and the supply and utilization of services.

#### **4.5. STRENGTHENING OF SOCIAL SAFETY NET FOR VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS AND CREATION OF INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES**

Aside from the crises resulting from extreme natural disasters, a proportion of the population, some two to three million people, live in conditions of chronic vulnerability each year (between 2001 and 2007). As such, Niger has integrated crisis prevention and management as a permanent feature of its strategies, programmes and projects.

Therefore, in order to meet the needs of vulnerable groups, numerous diverse programmes have been implemented by state institutions and the PTF under the control of the Prime Minister's Office, through the National Food Crisis and Mitigation Mechanism (DNPGCA).

The programmes which have been developed are Food for Work, Cash for Work, free distribution of food supplies, sale of food supplies at controlled prices, cash transfer, Cash for Education, food supplies in exchange for work, etc.

Despite the multiplicity and regularity of programmes, various problems remain to be resolved in terms of really meeting the needs of vulnerable groups. These include identifying beneficiaries of aid; adapting assistance to the needs of groups;

high cost of aid programmes; conflicts of interest between beneficiaries and those responsible for distributing aid; and the recurring nature of aid which is an obstacle to moving towards self-reliance by vulnerable groups.

The strengthening of the social safety net for vulnerable households and the creation of IGA are limited by two principal bottlenecks:

- inadequacies in the identification and targeting of vulnerable groups, insufficient traceability of allocated funds and coordination of interventions in their favour;
- poor adaptation of social safety nets to the needs of vulnerable households and insufficient viable IGA capable of sustainably securing vulnerable households.

This bottleneck highlights problems in public policy and planning, budgets and financing, and supply and utilization of services for the poor.

#### **4.6. INTENSIFICATION OF THE FIGHT AGAINST MALNUTRITION IN VULNERABLE GROUPS AND ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER**

The fight against malnutrition largely depends on strengthening food security at the household level. Methods of conservation of agropastoral products remain traditional and largely incompatible with the current demands of the market and of consumers. Consequently, significant post-harvest losses reduce food availability, and difficulties in marketing both perishable and non-perishable goods due to lack of treatment facilities reduce food accessibility.

Practices in Feeding Infants and Young Children (ANJE) remain inadequate in Niger and the availability of good quality complementary food products

is limited. All forms of malnutrition have a negative effect on the survival, growth and development of young children in Niger.

The ratio of malnutrition among children was estimated at 48 percent in 2010. In the case of acute malnutrition among children aged under five years, it was 16.7 percent in 2010. Furthermore, 44 percent of children under five years of age were underweight that same year.

Levels of infant and child mortality remain high, at 81 per 1,000 and 198 per 1,000 respectively in 2006. Levels of health care coverage rose from 47.6 percent in 2000 to 52 percent in 2005.

The rate of access of the population to health services is relatively low (39.5 percent). The impact of water distribution equipment on health is also limited by the lack of an integrated approach which combines water consumption with sanitation and sanitary education. Water provision requires significant financial resources owing to the depth of the groundwater and the costs of maintaining equipment.

Bottlenecks identified in this situation are:

- poor access to sufficient food at all times in all places;
- poor knowledge of the nutritional value of foodstuffs and persistence of sociocultural influences unfavourable to feeding infants and young children;
- poor access of vulnerable groups, particularly children between 0–5 years and pregnant or breastfeeding women, to adequate nutrition;
- poor access of vulnerable groups to a quality health service;
- poor access to clean water and sanitation infrastructures.

These bottlenecks are linked to problems in public policy and planning, budgets and financing, and supply and utilization of services.

#### **4.7. STRENGTHENING OF THE RESPONSE MECHANISM FOR CRISIS SITUATIONS AND NATURAL DISASTERS**

In Niger, despite the implementation of a National Food Crisis and Mitigation Mechanism (DNP-GCA) with an Early Warning System Coordination Unit (CC/SAP, Cellule de Coordination du Système d'Alerte Précoce), a Food Crisis Unit (CCA, Cellule Crise Alimentaire), a Common Intervention Fund (FCI, Fonds Commun d'Intervention), a National Stock Reserve (SNR, Stock National de Réserve), and an information system, several constraints are apparent in crisis management.

Despite the efficacy of the tools used to identify, monitor and meet the needs of the vulnerable groups, there are clearly numerous shortcomings:

- lack of a systematic approach to information gathering on nutritional issues (UNICEF/SAP/INS corrections underway);
- difficulties in targeting truly vulnerable areas and households;
- difficulties in determining which areas are vulnerable in a pastoral production system;
- difficulties in managing interventions of certain NGOs, projects or private actors in vulnerable areas.

Certain organizations collect primary information, others rely on information already available to conduct analyses or else combine information from various sources in order to produce their own. This

latter approach involves a risk of double counting in the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of statistical information. Poor coordination in the system leads to a loss of synergies. Furthermore, the information disseminated is not used to an appropriate degree by decision-makers, which results in a communication deficit among stakeholders.

Analysis of the context highlights two major bottlenecks:

- shortcomings in the functioning and intervention of DNP-GCA local management committees;
- lack of a national contingency plan for exceptional natural disasters.

These bottlenecks result from problems in public policy and of planning, budgets and financing, and the supply and utilization of services, in the context of poverty and the weak capacity of producers.

**TABLE 6.** SUMMARY OF BOTTLENECKS SPECIFIC TO PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS

MDG	MDG indicators	Key interventions	Priority interventions	Priority bottlenecks	Bottleneck type
MDG 1- target 1.a: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than a dollar a day	1.a.1. Proportion of population living below the poverty threshold	A. Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and to equipment and techniques of sustainable management of land and livestock	a.1. Improvement of access to inputs and equipment	a.1.1. Poor financial access by small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters) to inputs and equipment	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision
				a.1.2. Poor physical access by small-scale producers to inputs and equipment	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use
			a.2. Sustainable management of land and livestock	a.2.1. Low productivity and extreme vulnerability of agropastoral production to climatic conditions	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use
			B. Advice-support for small-scale producers and evaluation of the results of the research	b.1. Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers and encouragement of their organization	b.1.1. Inadequacy of means (human, material and technical) by which to support small-scale producers and their organization
		b.2. Improvement of access to water for small-scale producers for agricultural, livestock, fishing and forestry production purposes		b.2.1. Low capacity of agricultural producers to access and use irrigation and cultivation techniques	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use
				b.2.2. Poor networking of water points for livestock in pastoral areas	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use
				b.2.3. Low capacity of small-scale producers for acquiring equipment and installations needed for production activities	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use



MDG	MDG indicators	Key interventions	Priority interventions	Priority bottlenecks	Bottleneck type			
MDG 1: Target 1.c. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	1.c.1. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption	C. Protection of vulnerable agropastoral households and livestock	c.1. Strengthening of social safety net for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of IGA	c.1.1. Inadequacies in the identification and targeting of vulnerable groups, insufficient traceability of allocated funds and coordination of interventions	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision			
				c.1.2. Poor adaptation of social safety net to the needs of vulnerable households and insufficient viable IGA capable of sustainably securing vulnerable households	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use			
	1.c.2. Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age	D. Diversification and improvement of the quality of food consumption	d.1. Intensification of the fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups and access to clean water		d.1.1. Poor knowledge of the nutritional value of foodstuffs and persistence of sociocultural influences unfavourable to feeding	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use		
					d.1.2. Poor access to adequate nutrition by the most vulnerable groups (children 0–5 years; pregnant/ breastfeeding women) and school-age children	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use		
					d.1.3. Poor access to clean water	Policy and Planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use		
					d.1.4. Low capacities for small-scale stocking, preservation and processing of agropastoral and fishing products (cowpeas, tubers, bulbs, legumes, fruits, milk, meat, eggs, fodder, fish)	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use		
					E. Improvement of access to foodstuffs in rural and peri-urban areas	e.1. Strengthening of the response mechanism for crisis situations and natural disaster	e.1.1. Shortcomings in the functioning and intervention of DNP/GCA local management committees	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use
							e.1.2. Lack of a national contingency plan for severe natural disasters	Policy and planning; budget and financing; service provision; service use



**CHAPTER 5:**

**IDENTIFICATION  
OF SOLUTIONS**

*Photo: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*

The constraints linked to the poor performance of interventions in achieving MDG 1 targets have now been subject to a critical analysis for the purpose of identifying acceleration solutions capable of producing greater impact in the short and medium term to benefit rural populations, particularly women. The identification of each solution has taken account of its rate of impact as well as its technical and financial feasibility.

Furthermore, in keeping with the spirit of MAF, a consideration of effective local initiatives and national good practices informed the choice of the proposed solutions.

With these principles in mind, 22 key solutions were identified and prioritized, on the basis of existing national strategy documents and plans. They are all suitable for short- and long-term implementation.

While some of these solutions are new and therefore begin in 2011, others are already in existence but insufficiently implemented hence the need for further acceleration.

## 5.1. IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO INPUTS AND EQUIPMENT

Based on the analysis of key interventions and bottlenecks, the solutions chosen by agreement are:

- extension of the scope of appropriate mechanisms for the partial or full subsidy of inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and equipment, rotating credit arrangements and the guarantee system for small-scale producers;
- increase in the number of input shops and equipment, paying due attention to the importance of spatial distribution in line with the

needs of small-scale producers (farmers and herders);

- promotion of local input production (improved seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical (animal feed) and veterinary products and equipment.

## 5.2. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND LIVESTOCK

With regard to land and livestock management, after analysis and discussion, the following acceleration solutions have been selected:

- extension and support for the adoption of crop diversification and association techniques (secondary crops, fertilizing crops, cereals and legumes, forage crops); for the CES/DRS (demilune, banquettes, zai) and adaptation to climatic conditions (short cycle crops, drought and pest-tolerant crops);
- safety and improvement of sustainable animal management in rural and peri-urban areas against climate hazards (stocking techniques strategic destocking, development of resistant and productive local species).

## 5.3. IMPROVEMENT IN ADVICE-SUPPORT MEASURES FOR SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THEIR ORGANIZATION

The solutions selected in relation to improving advice-support measures for small-scale producers are:

- capacity building of the structures in charge (INRAN, IPDR, decentralised State services) with a special focus on the recruitment of women;
- mobilization and training of young rural, uneducated girls/boys (National Volunteer Agency, National Participatory Service, Community Development Training Centre) on advice-support issues;
- improvement of the technical capacities of small-scale producers and producers' organizations: planning, update of technical manuals and dissemination of their contents through different channels (rural radio, television, listening groups, translation into national languages, etc.).

#### **5.4. IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO WATER FOR SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS**

The intervention relating to improving access to water for rural production has the following solutions identified for its success:

- extension of the implementation of small-scale irrigation projects for agricultural purposes (drip irrigation, plastic film-shielded irrigation networks, etc.);
- increase in the number of livestock watering points in pastoral areas;
- establishment of suitable financing mechanisms at community level and for small-scale producers (farmers, herders).

#### **5.5. STRENGTHENING OF SOCIAL SAFETY NET FOR VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS AND CREATION OF IGA**

The following agreed upon solutions relate to this intervention:

- harmonization, coordination and implementation of targeting and intervention methods for vulnerable groups, and traceability of resources allocated to them (improved mapping of vulnerable areas, identification of vulnerable households, coordination of interveners etc.) through the use of surveys and participatory assessments;
- strengthening and implementation of recovery and livelihood restoration programmes for the most vulnerable, particularly, women, youth, the elderly, the disabled, and nomads and transhumant groups, through the use of adapted social safety nets (cash/food for work) for the creation of rural infrastructures, movement corridors, and targeted free distribution of food, cash/transfers, vouchers).

#### **5.6. INTENSIFICATION OF THE FIGHT AGAINST MALNUTRITION IN VULNERABLE GROUPS, AND ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER**

The fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups requires the following solutions in particular:

- upscaling of IEC/CCC local programmes aimed at (i) promoting proper feeding practices for infants and young children (breastfeeding, hygiene, nutritional value of local foodstuffs, cooking methods); (ii) use of preventative health services;



## Box 2: Cash transfer for the protection of households subject to chronic food insecurity in Niger: Pilot project in three departments and 12 rural communities of Maradi

In the first quarter of 2010 in Niger, a study showed that 50 percent of households live with food insecurity and 22 percent are affected by chronic extreme food insecurity. In addition, poor households are more vulnerable to disasters, the poorest regions are the most vulnerable to food insecurity and the means of survival often expose the households to further food insecurity in the future. Shortcomings persist with regard to targeted food aid. This should benefit the whole population affected by drought and not just the most vulnerable. In addition, social safety net programmes are restricted. These receive limited government funding and are only implemented during a food crisis.

Furthermore, despite the existence of a support plan covering emergency humanitarian assistance to households afflicted by food and nutritional insecurity, Niger does not yet have an operational strategy with a medium- and long-term focus for safeguarding sustainable food and nutritional security among populations.

In this respect, with the support of the UNDP, the government plans to implement a pilot project for transfers of cash aimed at protecting the most vulnerable households through promotion of revenue-generating activities with a focus on the construction of rural infrastructure. This cash transfer project will contribute to initiatives which support sustainable solutions to the vulnerability of populations to food and nutritional insecurity and poverty. The overall objective of the project is to improve the food situation and living conditions of vulnerable households, in particular women and children, in the targeted areas.

In order to achieve this objective, the project is structured around four elements: (i) cash for work for vulnerable households capable of working; (ii) direct unconditional cash transfers to households suffering chronic food insecurity with no working capacity; (iii) rehabilitation of livelihoods for households recently emerging from a serious crisis (flooding, drought, famine, etc.); (iv) institutional support through the implementation of a monitoring-evaluation plan.

Ultimately, on the basis of transfers on an ongoing basis throughout the year for 30,000 households in Maradi, the poorest region of the country, the following outcomes are expected: (i) thousands of households without the capacity to work in the targeted areas will receive an unconditional money transfer to cover their basic needs, (ii) thousands of households in the targeted areas will benefit from a cash for work programme to cover their basic needs, (iii) numerous rural communities will benefit from the rehabilitation of their livelihoods, (iv) rural communities will be trained to construct rural infrastructure (aircraft landing strips, markets, storage depots, etc.).

- promotion of fortified, locally produced foods in school canteens for malnourished preschool children and children of school age in nomadic areas;
- improved access to prenatal screening and promotion of maternal nutrition;
- sinking and rehabilitation of cemented wells, boreholes, pastoral pumping stations and mini clean water supply systems (AEP) in rural and peri-rural areas; promotion of treatment of drinking water in the home;
- application of adapted stocking technologies, and the preservation and processing of agropastoral products (using technologies such as the solar kiln, silo conservation of green fodder, construction of suitable village community warehouses and hand-operated machinery)

## 5.7. STRENGTHENING OF THE RESPONSE MECHANISM FOR CRISIS SITUATIONS AND NATURAL DISASTERS

The existing national mechanism requires solutions such as:

- capacity-building for the functioning, intervention and recovery of local management committees of the National Food Crisis and Mitigation Mechanism (DNP-GCA);
- formulation of a national multi-risk contingency plan for early warning and management of all possible forms of disaster.

**TABLE 7: SUMMARY OF AGREED SOLUTIONS**

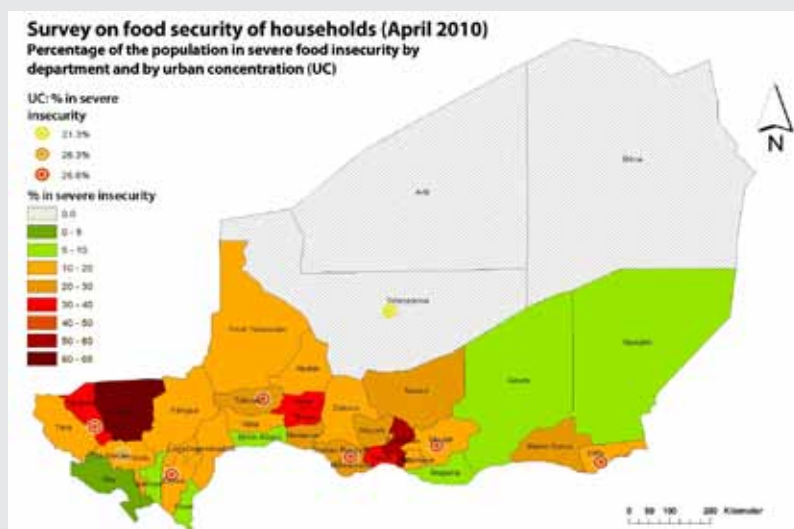
MDG	MDG indicators	Priority interventions	Bottlenecks	
<p>MDG 1- target 1.a: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than a dollar a day</p>	<p>1.a.1. Proportion of population living below the poverty threshold</p>	<p>a.1. Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and equipment</p>	<p>a.1.1. Poor financial access by small producers to inputs and equipment</p>	
		<p>a.1.2. Poor physical access by small-scale producers to inputs and equipment (availability of stocks, distance from sales points, input shops, etc.)</p>		
		<p>a.2. Sustainable management of land and livestock</p>	<p>a.2.1. Low productivity and extreme vulnerability of agropastoral production to climatic conditions</p>	
		<p>b.1. Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers and encouragement of their organization</p>	<p>b.1.1. Inadequacy of means (human, material and technical) by which to support small producers and their organization</p>	
		<p>b.2. Improvement of access to water for small-scale producers for agricultural, livestock, fishing and forestry production purposes</p>	<p>b.2.1. Low capacity of agricultural producers to access and use irrigation and cultivation techniques</p>	
			<p>b.2.2. Poor networking of water points for livestock in pastoral areas</p>	
			<p>b.2.3. Low capacity of small-scale producers for acquiring equipment and installations needed for production activities</p>	

Acceleration solutions 2011-15	Partners
a.1.1.1. Extension of the scope of appropriate mechanisms for the partial or full subsidy of inputs and equipment, rotating credit arrangements and the guarantee system for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters)	GoN (MAGEL), SNRA, EU (through agricultural project currently in formulation in the Dosso and Zinder regions), FAO, WB, IFAD, NGOs, bilateral partners
a.1.2.1. Increase in the number of input shops and equipment, paying due attention to the importance of spatial distribution in line with the needs of small-scale producers	GoN (MAGEL), EUD, FAO, WB, IFAD, NGOs, bilateral partners
a.1.2.2. Promotion of local input production [improved seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical (animal feed) and veterinary products] and equipment	GoN (MAGEL), EU (through agricultural project currently in formulation in the Dosso and Zinder regions), FAO, WB, IFAD, NGOs, bilateral partners
a.2.1.1. Extension and support for the adoption of crop diversification and association techniques (secondary crops, fertilizing crops, cereals and legumes, forage crops); for the CES/DRS (demi-lune, banquettes, zai) and adaptation to climatic conditions (short cycle crops, drought and pest-tolerant crops)	GoN (MAGEL), EU (through agricultural project currently in formulation in the Dosso and Zinder regions and budgetary support for food security issues), WFP, FAO, WB, IFAD, NGOs, UNDP (GEF), bilateral partners
a.2.1.1. Safety and improvement of sustainable animal management in rural and peri-urban areas against climate hazards (stocking techniques strategic destocking, development of resistant and productive local species)	GoN (MAGEL), FAO, WB, IFAD, NGOs, UNDP (GEF), bilateral partners
b.1.1.1. Capacity-building of the structures in charge (INRAN, IPDR, decentralized State services) with a special focus on the recruitment of women	GoN (MAGEL), FAO, IFAD, UNDP, EU (through agricultural project currently in formulation in the Dosso and Zinder regions), WB, OP, NGOs, bilateral partners
b.1.1.2. Mobilization and training of young rural, uneducated girls/boys (National Volunteer Agency, National Participatory Service, Community Development Training Centre) on advice-support issues	GoN (MFPE, MJS, MESSRT), BIT, FAO, IFAD, UNDP, EU (through agricultural project currently in formulation in the Dosso and Zinder regions), WB, OP, NGOs, bilateral partners
b.1.1.3. Improvement of the technical capacities of small-scale producers and producers' organizations: planning, update of technical manuals and dissemination of their content through different channels (rural radio, television, listening groups, translation into national languages, etc.)	GoN (MAGEL, MC/TC), SNRA, FAO, IFAD, UNDP, EUD, WB, OP, NGOs, bilateral partners
b.2.1.1. Extension of the implementation of small-scale irrigation projects for agricultural purposes	GoN (MAGEL), FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNDP, EU (through agricultural project currently in formulation PMAEPS III), NGOs, bilateral partners
b.2.2.1. Increase in the number of livestock watering points in pastoral areas	GoN (MAGEL), FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNDP, EU (through agricultural project currently in formulation PMAEPS III), NGOs, bilateral partners
b.2.3.1. Establishment of suitable financing mechanisms at community level and for small-scale producers	GoN (MAGEL, MC/TC), SNRA, FAO, IFAD, UNDP, EUD, WB, OP, NGOs, bilateral partners

MDG	MDG indicators	Priority interventions	Bottlenecks
MDG 1: target - 1.c: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	1.c.1. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption	c.1. Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of IGA	c.1.1. Inadequacies in the identification and targeting of vulnerable groups, insufficient traceability of allocated funds and coordination of interventions in their favour
		c.1. Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of IGA	c.1.2. Poor adaptation of social safety nets to the needs of vulnerable households and insufficient viable IGA capable of sustainably securing vulnerable households

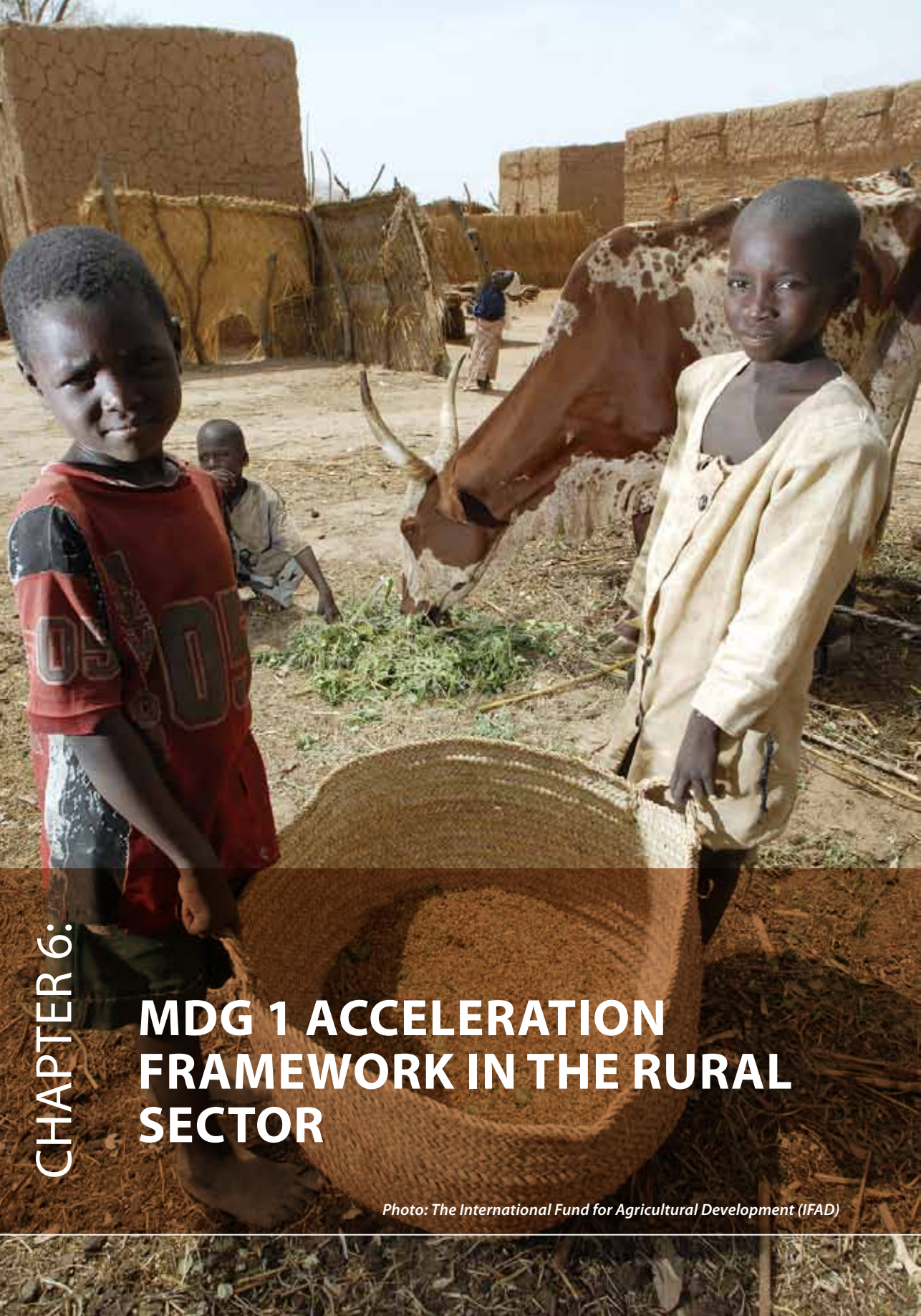
**FIGURE 6**

**PROFILE OF VULNERABILITY TO FOOD INSECURITY IN NIGER IN 2010**





Acceleration solutions 2011-15	Partners
<p>c.1.1.1. Harmonization, coordination and implementation of targeting and intervention methods for vulnerable groups, and traceability of resources allocated to them (improved mapping of vulnerable areas, identification of vulnerable households, coordination of interveners etc.) through the use of surveys and participatory assessments</p>	<p>GoN (CAB/PM), WFP, UNDP, FAO, IFAD, EUD, WB, NGOs (OCHA, Plan-Niger, CARE-International, etc.), bilateral partners (Germany, Japan, France, etc.)</p>
<p>c.1.2.1. Strengthening and implementation of recovery and livelihood restoration programmes for the most vulnerable, particularly, women, the youth, old people, the handicapped, nomads and transhumant groups, through the use of adapted social safety nets (cash/food for work) for the creation of rural infrastructures, movement corridors, targeted free distribution of food, cash/transfers, vouchers).</p>	<p>GoN (CAB/PM), WFP, UNDP, FAO, IFAD, EU (especially through budgetary support for food security), WB, NGOs (Plan-Niger, CARE-International, etc.), bilateral partners (Germany, Japan, France, etc.)</p>



CHAPTER 6:

**MDG 1 ACCELERATION  
FRAMEWORK IN THE RURAL  
SECTOR**

*Photo: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*

## 6.1. COUNTRY WORK PLAN

The action plan is organized into three stages: (i) planning, (ii) estimation of costs, (iii) partnerships for mobilizing financial and technical resources.

For each solution selected for removing bottlenecks in the implementation of a priority intervention, it is necessary to assess the required actions, their implementation period between 2011 and 2015, the estimated cost involved and the partners in implementation.

### Planning

The funding plan sets out a five-year cycle, grouping together the activities which have the principal objective of accelerating the two targets selected for MDG 1. The following aspects are particularly important:

- production of maps showing areas of crop diversification, inventory of natural resources, grazing land and vulnerability;
- verification of site conditions;
- classification of natural resources from a management plan perspective;
- lessons learned (e.g., from guarantees);
- identification of sites for cereal banks, access routes etc., prior to CES/DRS interventions;
- preparation, implementation and monitoring of IGA and farmer field schools to facilitate the demonstration and adoption of available production techniques;
- preparation of training and awareness-raising programmes, rehabilitation of infrastructures, etc.;

- funding mechanisms including credit lines from banks and funds from network-based financing;
- capacity-building for producers, supervisors, researchers and consumers;
- improvement of information systems especially related to lands, markets and use of food products.

The principal objective of these activities is to consolidate gains and make investments both in extending surface area of farming and more effective targeting of vulnerable groups. Another objective is to boost the intervention for a greater impact on small-scale producers.

### Estimation of costs

The MAF estimation of costs follows the steps below: (i) setting parameters; (ii) estimation of costs of actions; (iii) estimation of overall costs of MAF.

It is necessary to estimate the cost of each action associated with an agreed acceleration solution while taking into account the following parameters: field of intervention, quantities needed and unitary costs. Then the cost of the solution is determined by adding specific costs of actions associated with it. The total cost is then calculated with the addition of management costs, implementation and monitoring-evaluation.

The action plan, which is the continuation of the National Agricultural Investment Programme, covers the period from 2011–2015. Most of the actions extend over a period of five years. The total cost of the five-year plan is estimated at 239 billion FCFA.

The amount of funding needed for 2011 is 56.8 billion FCFA, which will be absorbed mainly by the numerous preliminary actions preceding the investments which will follow. It decreases slightly to 54.7

billion FCFA in 2012 and 54.6 billion in 2013, falling to 36.6 million in 2014 and 2015.

Areas in which costs are highest relate to inputs — seeds, fertilizers, plant health, livestock feed and veterinary products.

### Partnerships for mobilizing financial and material resources

This financial estimate, which is summarized in table 13 in the annexes, is above all intended to give an idea of the cost of the MAF.

Funding for actions agreed within the MAF will be sourced from many diverse but complementary stakeholders. These include the State, the Nigerian

private sector, development partners including international NGOs.

In the case of the State, its contribution to financing the MAF will be around 13 percent (see table 9). In order to complement these resources, the Nigerian private sector will be encouraged to contribute through public-private partnerships to support the efforts of the State towards the resolution of the problems of poverty and hunger: problems which are very costly. It would also be advisable to target those NGOs which are active in the areas of: sustainable use of natural resources for agro-forestry-pastoral production; cereal banks; social safety nets and nutrition.

**TABLE 8.** PRINCIPAL TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS FOR THE MAF FOR NIGER

Multilateral aid	Bilateral aid	Regional and African aid	Private sector/ NGO/OP
Commission of the European Union	Canadian International Development Agency, CIDA	Islamic Development Bank	Private sector: CCAIN
World Bank, FAO, IFAD	French Development Agency (Agence Française de Développement)	African Union	TM Operators, commercial banks
WFP, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA	CTB (Belgian Development Agency)	WAEMU	NGOs: Care International, Oxfam GB, SNV, Concern
WHO, AfDB	JICA (Japanese International Cooperation Agency)	WADB NEPAD	Plan Niger, Africare
Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development	Chinese aid	CILSS	OP: RECA, Farming Platform
OPEC funds	GIZ	ABN	
Saudi funds	Swiss aid	ECOWAS	
Abu Dhabi funds	Spanish aid	African Development Bank	
Global Environment Facility	Luxembourg aid		

With regard to development partners, the institutional framework for implementation depends on a State-PTF committee which will facilitate the mobilization of resources. The establishment of a round table at the end of the political transition process will also serve to complete the financing of the MAF.

The mobilization of financial resources from these different sources will have to be achieved through a concerted effort.

The action plan shows that funding has been received worth 128.1 billion FCFA which corresponds to funding agreements already signed by the State and development partners. There is an overall gap of 110.9 billion FCFA mainly affecting access to inputs and the strengthening of the social safety net.

In four of the seven priority intervention areas, the funding received covers the estimated needs. These areas are sustainable land management, advice-support, improved access to water and the fight against malnutrition. The creation of synergies will be necessary in the interventions of different partners.

The main technical and financial partners targeted for allocating material and financial resources are seen in table 8.

## 6.2 IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING-EVALUATION PLAN

### Scheduled Actions for 2011:

Implementation of the 2011 MAF action plan is based on a certain number of principles: (i) a high level of ownership by the Government and partners; (ii) commitment to the mobilization of the necessary financing on the part of partners identified by the exercise; (iii) a monitoring-evaluation system for the process; (iv) acceptance of the MAF document by all stakeholders in rural development (MAGEL,

SDR, CCA, HASA, PTFs, Rural Development Research Institutes, etc.) as a reference point to enable them more effectively to target their financing and technical support services in line with the seven key areas of intervention identified within the MAF; (v) repositioning of national strategies and plans in the areas of poverty and food security, in order to take into account the priorities defined in the MAF within the framework of the acceleration of MDG 1.

Institutional anchoring of the MAF will occur at the Government level within the framework of a State/PTFs committee. The latter will be responsible for monitoring and for the smooth running of the targeted interventions as they are put into practice. The committee will produce periodic progress reports and submit them to the Government which will supervise the coordination and synergy necessary for the successful achievement of MDG 1 between now and 2015.

The mission of this committee is:

- to oversee the coordination and harmonization of interventions by different development actors;
- to facilitate mobilization of the financial and technical resources necessary for creating and implementing the MAF action plan;
- to oversee the alignment of support from technical and financial partners for the agreed priorities;
- to guarantee the monitoring-evaluation of interventions.

The level of anchorage will certainly contribute to sending a clear signal to all the stakeholders and the PTFs active in the field of rural agricultural regarding the key, strategic role of the MAF in the fight against poverty and food insecurity. This will provide a genuine opportunity to include the MAF



**TABLE 9. WORK PLAN**

Priority interventions	Partners	Funding required	Funding received		Gap
a.1. Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and to equipment	IDA, EDF, AfDB, Government of Niger (GoN)	102,198,750,000	STATE	840,840,000	
			PTF	5,317,284,660	
			TOTAL 1	6,158,124,660	96,040,625,340
a.2. Sustainable management of land and livestock	Belgium, Switzerland, CDOHA, GEF, EDF, UNDP, AfDB, Denmark, GoN	12,000,000,000	STATE	4,898,245,860	
			PTF	16,179,118,631	
			TOTAL 2	21,077,364,491	-9,077,364,491
b.1. Improvement in advice-support measures for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters) and encouragement of their organization	Switzerland, UNDP, Denmark, GoN	3,693,750,000	STATE	2,325,050,000	
			PTF	8,063,459,320	
			TOTAL 3	10,388,509,320	-6,694,759,320
b.2. Improvement of access to water for small-scale producers for agricultural, livestock, fishing and forestry production purposes	IFAD, GEF, ABEDA, Belgium, IDA, IDB, AfDB, GoN	9,825,000,000	STATE	4,677,786,663	
			PTF	24 677 329 657	
			TOTAL 4	29,355,116,321	-19,530,116,321
c.1. Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of IGA	CDOHA, ABEDA, IDB, Switzerland, KFW, GTZ, UNCDF, Italy, Belgium	94,050,000,000	STATE	290,864,000	
			PTF	27,148,280,862	
			TOTAL 5	27,439,144,862	66,610,855,138
d.1. Intensification of the fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups and access to clean water	UNFPA, GoN	10,500,000,000	STATE	3,577,000,000	
			PTF	25,694,894,715	
			TOTAL 6	29,271,894,715	-18,771,894,715
e.1. Strengthening of the response mechanism for crisis situations and natural disaster	UNDP, GoN	6,750,000,000	STATE	17,500,000	
			PTF	4,399,820,732	
			TOTAL 7	4,417,320,732	2,332,679,268
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>239,017,500,000</b>		<b>128,107,475,101</b>	<b>110,910,024,899</b>

*Note: Examples of funding received: IDA/PRODEX (11 522 750), AfDB/Water development project in Tillabéri (2 755 456), IFAD/Belgium/Local Initiatives Project for development/Aguie (Maradi) (4 629 594).*

priority interventions within the framework of the forthcoming revision of the second generation of the SDRP 2008–2010, scheduled for 2012.

Taking existing strategies such as the SDR as a basis, the MAF will be able to provide a first point of reference for all the development partners, present and future, associated with the fight against hunger and food insecurity in Niger. Their individual interventions will be able to draw on the MAF priority action plan created on a national, consensual basis. This is all the more appropriate given that, before the MAF, there were numerous strategies and policies relating to the fight against poverty and food insecurity.

These often entailed duplication of intervention, lack of visibility of PTF support and, consequently, uncertain impacts when the strategies to improve the living conditions of poor and vulnerable populations were implemented.

The MAF Niger must therefore ensure confidence in all the interventions of the partners on the basis of identified solutions and priority actions. This guideline will help the State to manage its resources better by improving their impact on the implementation of suggested solutions to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger in Niger between now and 2015.

**TABLE 10: IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING-EVALUATION PLAN**

Actions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Partner responsible
<b>Total subsidy for inputs and equipment</b>						
Total subsidy for seeds (millet/sorghum, cowpeas and kitchen garden crops) (tons) Indicator: 10 kg seeds/household per year (350,000 vulnerable households)						MAGEL
Total subsidy for urea and 15-15-15 (tons) Indicator: 25 kg/household (350,000 vulnerable households)						MAGEL
Total subsidy for plant health products (tons) Indicator: 0.5 kg/household (350 000 vulnerable households)						MAGEL
Total subsidy for vaccines (batch of 1,000 doses/community) Indicator: 50 rural communities (communes rurales)						MAGEL
Total subsidy for food (tons) Indicator: 100 tons/community for 50 rural communities						MAGEL
Total subsidy for anti-parasite treatments for livestock (batches of 10 kg) Indicator: 350 kg/community for 50 rural communities						MAGEL
Total subsidy for equipment (small ploughing equipment, wheelbarrows) for 10,000 households/year						MAGEL
<b>Partial subsidy for inputs and equipment</b>						
Partial subsidy for seeds (millet/sorghum, cowpeas and kitchen garden crops) (tons) Indicator: 10 kg seeds/household (200,000 households) per year						MAGEL
Partial subsidy for urea and 15-15-15 (tons) Indicator: 25 kg/household (100,000 households/year)						MAGEL
Partial subsidy for plant health products (tons) Indicator: 0.5 kg/household (100,000 vulnerable households)						MAGEL

Actions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Partner responsible
Partial subsidy for food (tons) 100 tons/community for 100 rural communities						MAGEL
Partial subsidy for anti-parasite treatments for livestock (batches of 10 kg) Indicator: 500 kg/community for 50 rural communities						MAGEL
Partial subsidy for equipment (animal-traction vehicles, carts, fishing equipment) for 5,000 households/year						MAGEL
<b>Credit for access to inputs (rotating credit, guarantee system) and equipment</b>						
Implementation of rotating/revolving credit arrangements for equipment (threshing machines, mills, extractors) for small-scale farmers, herders, foresters and fisherfolk. 1 credit line/year						MAGEL
Extension of credit guarantee system for small-scale agricultural producers in vulnerable areas: 1 million shops at a rate of 2 shops/community/year						MAGEL
Establishment of shops for inputs and equipment (2 shops per rural community for 214 rural communities) Indicator: 2 shops/rural community						MAGEL
Support for local input production (seeds, phosphate fertilizers, bio pesticides, vaccines) and equipment (seed drills, crop treatment apparatus, hulling machines, winnowing machines) within the Public-Private-OP Partnership framework: Indicator: Support of 500 million F/year						MAGEL
Support to OP for the production of improved seeds, fertilizers (compost), plant health products (vegetable oils), livestock feed (urea blocks, mineral licks, concentrates) and equipment (ploughing equipment, hand-operated treatment apparatus); Support of 100 millions F/year						MAGEL
Reclamation and development of degraded lands (hectares) Indicator: 10,000 ha/year						MEE/LCD
Implementation of ongoing stocking/destocking operations and introduction of adapted local species in vulnerable areas (Maradi, Tahoua, Tillabéri, Zinder): Support funds for introducing resistant and productive animal species: 100 million F/year						MAGEL
Recruitment of field supervisors (number of supervisors): 50 agents/year (50 communities) at least 20 of them women						MAGEL
Reuse of field supervisors (number of supervisors): Indicator: 2 agents/community/year (50 communities)						MAGEL
Acquisition, maintenance and reconditioning of motorcycles, provision of fuel and safety helmets (number): 1 motorcycle/agent (150 agents)						MAGEL



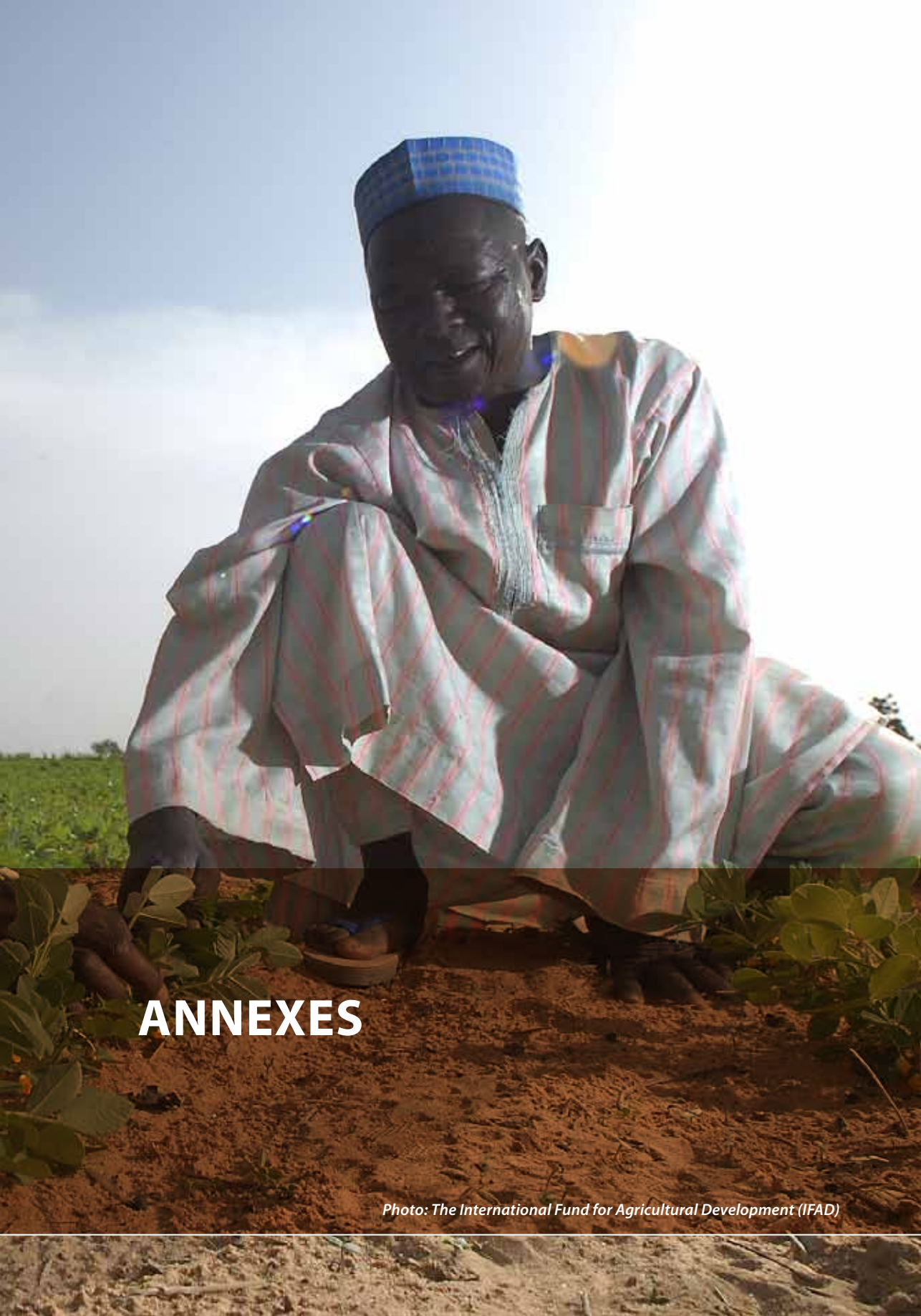
Actions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Partner responsible
Mobilization of girls/boys for rural development (number): 500 young people/year at least 200 of them girls						MFP
Organization of technical training sessions for the benefit of girls/boys for rural development: 500 young people trained/year						
Allocation for redeployment of girls/boys for rural development in communities: 500 young people benefit						MAGEL
Updating and production of factsheets (with translation into different languages): 10 factsheets/manuals produced/year						MAGEL
Dissemination of information (radio, television, listening groups, printed materials, etc.): 10 dissemination contracts completed/year						MAGEL
Equipment for small-scale agricultural producers in the form of tools for small-scale irrigation: 1 full set of equipment/household (1,000 households/year)						MAGEL
Management of small agricultural areas irrigated at low cost: 200 ha/year						MEE/LCD
Rehabilitation of wells and boreholes for livestock in pastoral areas: 25 wells/boreholes/year						MEE/LCD
Management of existing pools for livestock in pastoral areas: 10 water points/year						MEE/LCD
Construction of new water points (retention tanks, wells and boreholes) for livestock in pastoral areas: 10 water points/year						MEE/LCD
Creation of credit systems adapted to the rural sector for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters) and their organizations: credit line of 100 million F/year						MEF/MAGEL
Conducting participatory surveys/assessments (information on identifying vulnerable households and DSBE) for identifying areas at risk and vulnerable households. Number of operations: 1 operation every two years						CAB/PM
Organization of periodic consultation meetings (PTF, GoN, NGOs/associations, civil society, grassroots organizations): 1 meeting/year						MAGEL
Implementation of programmes Cash for Works (earmarking of areas for pasturing and movement corridors, rural landing strips, fire strips, micro dams, water and soil conservation / soil protection and restoration: banquettes, small walls, demi-lunes , cordons pierreux , protection of wadi banks, removal of sand from ponds): 1 programme/year (900 million F/year)						CAB/PM

4) Farmers of the Sahelian region have developed indigenous techniques, such as the 'demi-lune' or semi-circular micro-catchment. Between the micro-catchments, holes (10-20cm deep planting pits) are dug and filled with manure or compost. Stone lines facilitate water infiltration and trenches catch runoff (source : « Bio-reclamation of degraded lands in the Sahel, New Agriculturalist

5) Cordons pierreux are thin lines of fist-sized stones laid across fields. Their purpose is to form a catchment. When rain falls, it pushes silt across the surface of the field, which then fetches up against the cordon. Slowing down the flow of water gives it more time to soak into the earth.

Actions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Partner responsible
Implementation of programmes Food for Works (earmarking of areas for pasturing and movement corridors, rural landing strips, fire strips, micro dams, water and soil conservation / soil protection and restoration: banquettes, small walls, demi-lunes, cordons pierreux, protection of wadi banks, removal of sand from ponds): 1 programme/year (10,000 tons = 1.5 billion F/year)						CAB/PM
Implementation of programmes to sell food products at controlled prices: earmarking of areas for pasturing and movement corridors, rural landing strips, fire strips, micro dams, water and soil conservation / soil protection and restoration: banquettes, small walls, demi-lunes, cordons pierreux, protection of wadi banks, removal of sand from ponds): 1 programme/year of 45 000 tons (6.75 billion F/year)						CAB/PM
Implementation of national cash transfer programme: Vouchers, supervision and training of beneficiaries in correct use of resources, promotion of utilization of grassroots social services — health, nutrition, education, hygiene / sanitation (50 million F/year)						CAB/PM
Creation of credit systems for promoting IGAs for vulnerable groups (women, young people, the handicapped): 1 credit line/year (100 million F/year)						MPF/PE
Implementation of national targeted free distribution programme: 3 billion F/year						CAB/PM
Increasing awareness-raising campaigns (2 per year) targeting especially the role of women and involvement of young people: Reproduction of technical manuals and fact sheets in national languages (flip charts), community radio, advice-support and cookery demonstrations, public announcements, listening groups, opinion leaders, use of 'champions'; training: 2 campaigns/year (50 million F/campaign)						MSP
Support for strengthening existing production units and initiatives (LTA-INRAN, women's groups, local food preservation and processing businesses): 1 support/year (100 million F/year)						MAGEL
Support for improving the quantity and quality of food intake at grassroots level (school canteens): 10 million F/community (50 communities)						MEN
Extension of activities of mobile and travelling clinics (Minimum Activity Package / Integrated Care for Childhood Diseases; promotion of Community-Based Approach to Growth, promotion of micronutrient consumption): 1 activity/community (50 communities)						MSP

Actions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Partner responsible
Rehabilitation of modern water points (cemented wells, boreholes, SPP and AEP) (number), training for maintenance committees and water point management: 1 water point/community (50 communities)						MEE/LCD
Creation of new clean water points (cemented wells, boreholes, SPP and AEP): 1 water point/community (10 communities/year)						
Training and awareness-raising campaigns on clean water management (installation maintenance, cost-covering, potability) at individual or community level						MSP
Creation of clean water points (cemented wells, boreholes, SPP and AEP)						MEE/LCD
Construction and equipping of storage silos and conservation of agropastoral products (cowpeas, legumes, milk, cheese): 1 silo/community/year (50 communities)						MAGEL
Promotion of ecological smoking kilns (drying fish and meat), solar kilns (drying flours and grains) and covers for drying green fodder: 1 kiln/community (50 communities/year)						MME
Strengthening and installation of small processing units for agropastoral and fishing products: 1 unit/community (25 communities/year)						MCI
Promotion of multifunctional platforms and other renewable energy sources: (already scheduled)						MME
Development and testing of regional contingency plans linked to the National Contingency Plan (Food and Nutrition Security section): 1 plan/2 years						CAB/PM
Strengthening means of functioning and intervention of local DNP-GCA management committees: Support/year						CAB/PM
Organizing exercises to get feedback from experience (post-crisis reckoning) in the field of managing emergency food and nutritional situations: 3 exercises in 5 years						CAB/PM
Updating of sectoral food and nutritional crisis contingency plan: 3 updates/5 years						CAB/PM
Strengthening national and local capacities in the field of emergency planning: 3 supports in 5 years						CAB/PM
Implementation of coordination and updating mechanisms for sector Convergence Plans (food, nutrition, health, population migration, etc.): Support 3 years/5 years						CAB/PM
Implementation and start-up of national platform for disaster risk management: Support 3 years out of 5 years						CAB/PM



# ANNEXES

*Photo: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*

## 7.1 SOURCES

### MDGs in Niger

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## 7.2 PREPARATION PROCESS FOR THE MAF IN NIGER AND LESSONS LEARNED

Niger chose two targets for MDG 1 'Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger' in which progress was unsatisfactory or showed significant delays.

By means of the MAF agreed upon, Niger identified the factors impeding their progress and, with the technical assistance of the United Nations and other partners, has developed solutions. For each of these solutions, a set of activities was defined and identified together with the partners best-placed to execute them.

The acceleration framework for MDG achievement provides a systematic means of identifying bottlenecks and developing feasible high-impact solutions. This involves development of a concrete action plan ensuring coordination of the roles of public authorities and development partners in order to enable the country to achieve its priority MDGs. It constitutes one of the elements of the UNDP MDG Breakthrough Strategy. It has also benefited from technical advice provided by other United Nations bodies.

The MAF is based on the knowledge and experience of countries as well as their policies and planning processes. The framework assists in building partnerships at the country level with mutual commitments by all partners to taking responsibility.

When a target has been identified by a country as being subject to slow progress, the MAF proceeds in four systematic phases: identification of interventions necessary to achieve the MDG target in question; identification of bottlenecks which reduce the efficacy of key interventions on the ground; development of high-impact, achievable solutions to eliminate bottlenecks according to an established order of priority; and development of an action plan allocating specific roles to all the development partners who will participate in implementing solutions.

Action plans dovetail with existing policies and initiatives while adding value in numerous ways. Niger already has well-defined sector investment plans. The action plan therefore sets out priorities which will contribute to maximizing the impact of those plans on MDG 1 and also includes suggestions for the allocation of any resources as they become available. The action plan has made it possible to activate national policies which already exist but which have encountered difficulties in the course of their application. Equally, it has led to improvements in their implementation.

In the first stages of policy creation, the plan was useful in grouping diverse activities, previously of a stand-alone nature, into one initiative. It also clarified each phase, from the creation of policies and planning to service use. The action plan further served to coordinate the activities of ministries and specialized government agencies and agencies of other partners. At times, the consultations have brought to light obstacles the significance of which may have been underestimated before. Solutions have been suggested which have been tested at the local level and which have the potential to be adopted elsewhere or extended.





**TABLE 11. PREPARATION PROCESS IN THE COUNTRY AND LESSONS LEARNED**

	Preparatory phase		Phase 1	
Key inputs	Preparation of study and data gathering	Identification of priority MDGs	Identification of priority interventions	
Major activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Discussions between the United Nations System (UNS) and the Government (Cab/PM) on the MAF concept and the means of preparation (October 2010)</li> <li>. Establishment of technical committee (beginning of November 2010)</li> <li>. Launch workshop organization (9-10 November 2010)</li> <li>. Identification of 2 facilitators (10 November 2010)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Identification of MDG 1 in rural and peri-urban sectors of Niger (September 2010)</li> <li>. Enlargement of the technical committee for development support (10 November 2010)</li> <li>. Recruitment of resource persons (26 November 2010)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of follow up reports:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MDGs</li> <li>- SDRP</li> <li>- SDR</li> </ul> </li> <li>. Review of Rural Sector conducted (10 Nov – 9 Dec 2010)</li> <li>. Reading of MAF in Togo</li> </ul>	
Partners involved	CAB/PM; Ministries of Economy & Finance; Agriculture & Livestock; Water & Environment; Health; Promotion of Women & Protection of Children	CAB/PM; Ministries of Economy & Finance; Agriculture & Livestock, Water & Environment; Health; Promotion of Women & Protection of Children UNDP; NGOs; OP	PM's Office; Ministries of Economy & Finance; Agriculture & Livestock; Water & Environment; Health; Promotion of Women & Protection of Children	
Lessons learned (what worked)	Government commitment on the MDGs; UNS involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.Availability:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- members of the technical committee,</li> <li>. UNDP</li> <li>. working documents</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Availability:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- members of the technical committee</li> <li>. UNDP</li> <li>. working documents</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Lessons learned (challenges)	Limited time for conducting the exercise; period not conducive to participation (drafting annual reports, assessments)	Difficulty in setting parameters for analysis given the interdependence of 2 MDG 1 targets and other MDGs with eradicating poverty and hunger	-	

	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
	Identification of bottlenecks	Identification of priority bottlenecks	Identification of solutions
	Development of MAF		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Training for members of the MAF national committee and resource persons on the methodological approach (9-10 November 2010)</li> <li>. Analysis of bottlenecks by national technical team with support of experts from UNDP (Niamey, Dakar) (10-13 November 2010)</li> <li>. Refinement of analysis and prioritization of bottlenecks and identification of solutions by the enlarged technical committee (4-6 December 2010)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Preparation of first draft of MAF: 8 December 2010</li> <li>. National validation workshop: 13-14 December 2010</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. CAB/PM;</li> <li>. Ministries: Economy &amp; Finance; Agriculture &amp; Livestock; Water &amp; the Environment; Promotion of Women &amp; Protection of Children; Health</li> <li>. OP: Farmers' Platform</li> <li>. NGO: OXFAM-UK,</li> <li>. UNDP teams (Dakar Regional Centre, Niamey)</li> <li>. Two facilitators (support)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. CAB/PM;</li> <li>. Ministries: Economy &amp; Finance; Agriculture &amp; Livestock; Water &amp; the Environment; Promotion of Women &amp; Protection of Children; Health</li> <li>. OP: Farmers' Platform</li> <li>. NGO: OXFAM-UK,</li> <li>. UNDP Teams (Dakar Regional Centre, Niamey)</li> <li>. Two facilitators (support)</li> </ul>
	<p>The MAF was developed on the basis of SDR and PNIA programmes, always taking into account the key initiatives taken by the PTF in the field of eradicating poverty and food security.</p>		<p>The participatory approach and involvement of key technical partners greatly contributed to the creation of the MAF and its Action Plan, in the quality of the product and more efficient time management .</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Sufficient level of mobilization of PTFs to respond to serious needs in order to support a significant reduction in poverty and hunger: availability of foodstuffs (productions); accessibility of foodstuffs (revenues, improved access, etc.); stability (storage, conservation, market access); utilization (processing, quality).</li> </ul>		<p>Limited time for conducting the exercise</p>

## 7.3 CRITERIA FOR PRIORITIZING AGREED SOLUTIONS

**TABLE 12.** CRITERIA FOR PRIORITIZING AGREED SOLUTIONS

Interventions	Bottlenecks	Solutions for accelerating progress
a.1. Improvement of access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and equipment	a.1.1. Poor financial access by small-scale producers to inputs and equipment	a.1.1.1. Extension of the scope of appropriate mechanisms for the partial or full subsidy of inputs and equipment, rotating credit arrangements and the guarantee system for small-scale producers (farmers, herders, fisherfolk, foresters)
	a.1.2. Poor physical access by small-scale producers to inputs and equipment	a.1.2.1. Increase in the number of input shops and equipment, paying due attention to the importance of spatial distribution in line with the needs of small-scale producers
		a.1.2.2. Promotion of local input production (improved seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and equipment
a.2. Sustainable management of land and livestock	a.2.1. Low productivity and extreme vulnerability of agropastoral production due to climatic conditions	a.2.1.1. Extension and support for the adoption of crop diversification and association techniques (secondary crops, fertilizing crops, cereals and legumes, forage crops); for the CES/DRS (demi-lune, banquettes, zai) and adaptation to climatic conditions (short cycle crops, drought and pest-tolerant crops)
		a.2.1.2. safety and improvement of sustainable animal management in rural and peri-urban areas against climate hazards (stocking techniques strategic destocking, development of resistant and productive local species)

Impact of solution on bottleneck	Feasibility of solution
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact, sustainability: short- and medium-term (3 years)	Governance: Good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: Good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; Availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: short-term impact; sustainability: medium- and long-term	Governance: Good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock and Trade/ Industry. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministries for Agriculture and the Environment. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State, NGOs and PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: medium- and long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry responsible for livestock. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF

Interventions	Bottlenecks	Solutions for accelerating progress	
b.1. Improvement of advice-support for small-scale producers and encouragement of their organization	b.1.1. Inadequacy of means (human, material, financial and technical) by which to support small-scale producers and their organization	b.1.1.1. Capacity-building of the structures in charge (INRAN, IPDR, decentralized State services), with a special focus on the recruitment of women	
		b.1.1.2. Mobilization and training of young rural, uneducated girls and boys (National Volunteer Agency, National Participatory Service, Community Development Training Centre) on advice-support issues	
		b.1.1.3. Improvement of the technical capacities of small-scale producers and producers' organizations: planning, update of technical manuals and dissemination of their contents through different channels (rural radio, television, listening groups, translation into national languages, etc.)	
b.2. Improvement of access by small-scale producers to water for the requirements of agricultural, livestock, fishery and forestry production	b.2.1. Low capacity of agricultural producers to access and use irrigation and cultivation techniques	b.2.1.1. Extension of the implementation of small-scale irrigation projects for agricultural purposes	
	b.2.2. Poor networking of water points for livestock in pastoral areas	b.2.2.1. Increase in the number of water points for livestock in pastoral areas	
	b.2.3. Low capacity of small-scale producers for acquiring equipment and installations needed for their activities around water points	b.2.3.1. Establishment of suitable financing mechanisms at community level, for small-scale producers	
c.1. Strengthening of social safety nets for vulnerable households (agropastoral, pastoral, some farming areas, women-headed households) and creation of IGA	c.1.1. Inadequacies in the identification and targeting of vulnerable groups, insufficient traceability of allocated funds and coordination of interventions in their favour	c.1.1.1. Harmonization, coordination and implementation of targeting and intervention methods for vulnerable groups, and traceability of resources allocated to them (improved mapping of vulnerable areas, identification of vulnerable households, coordination of interveners etc.) through the use of surveys and participatory assessments	
	c.1.2. Poor adaptation of social safety nets to the needs of vulnerable households and insufficient viable IGA capable of sustainably securing vulnerable households	c.1.2.1. Strengthening and implementation of recovery and livelihood restoration programmes for the most vulnerable, particularly, women, youth, the elderly, the disabled, nomads and transhumant groups, through the use of adapted social safety nets (cash/food for work for the creation of rural infrastructures, movement corridors, targeting distribution of free food, cash/transfers, vouchers)	

Impact of solution on bottleneck	Feasibility of solution
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: medium- and long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry responsible for livestock. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: medium- and long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry for Professional Training/Integration of Young People. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
Scope: high impact on OP, small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry responsible for Agriculture/ Livestock, Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; Availability of funds: partially by the State, private enterprise and PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term (5+ years)	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Agriculture. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State, NGOs and PTF
Scope: high impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact, sustainability: long-term (5+ years)	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock and Hydraulics. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State, NGOs and PTF
Scope: high impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministries for Agriculture and the Environment. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: medium- and long-term	Governance: strong potential for coordination by the Government. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock/Promotion of Women. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State, NGOs and PTF

Interventions	Bottlenecks	Solutions for accelerating progress	
d.1. Intensification of the fight against malnutrition in vulnerable groups and access to clean water	d.1.1. Ignorance of the nutritional value of foodstuffs and persistence of sociocultural influences unfavourable to proper nutrition	d.1.1.1. Upscaling of IEC/CCC local programmes aimed at promoting proper feeding practices for infants and young children (breastfeeding, hygiene, nutritional value of local foodstuffs, cooking methods); use of preventive health services	
	d.1.2. Poor access by vulnerable groups (children between 0-5 years, pre-school children and pregnant/ breastfeeding women) to adequate nutrition	d.1.2.1. Promotion of fortified locally/ community produced foods for malnourished preschool children and children of school age	
		d.1.2.2. improved access to prenatal screening and promotion of maternal nutrition through free healthcare and proliferation of CRENAS, CRENAM and CRENI	
	d.1.3. Poor access to clean water	d.1.3.1. Sinking and rehabilitation of cemented wells, boreholes, pastoral pumping stations and mini clean water supply systems (AEP) in rural and peri-rural areas; promotion of treatment of drinking water in the home	
	d.1.4. Low capacities for small-scale stocking, preservation and processing of agropastoral and fishing products (cowpeas, tubers, bulbs, legumes, fruits, milk, meat, eggs, fodder, fish)	d.1.4.1. Application of adapted stocking technologies, preservation and processing of agropastoral products; (solar kiln, silo conservation of green fodder, construction of suitable village community warehouses, hand-operated machinery)	
e.1. Strengthening of the prevention and intervention mechanism for crisis situations and natural disasters	e.1.1. Shortcomings in the functioning and intervention of DNP/GCA local management committees	e.1.1.1. Capacity building for the functioning, intervention and recovery of local DNP/GCA management committees	
	e.1.2. Lack of a national contingency plan for exceptional natural disasters	e.1.2.1. Formulation of a national multi-risk contingency plan	



	Impact of solution on bottleneck	Feasibility of solution
	Scope: high impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: strong potential for coordination by the Government. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
	Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Health. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
	Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs, Speed: immediate impact, sustainability: long term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Health, Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; Availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
	Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministries of Hydraulics and Health. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
	Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Ministry of Health. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
	Scope: High impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: good potential for coordination by the Prime Minister's Office. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF
	Scope: high impact on small-scale producers and very poor households with impacts on other MDGs. Speed: immediate impact; sustainability: long-term	Governance: Good potential for coordination by the Prime Minister's Office. Capacity: good capacity for planning and implementation; availability of funds: partially by the State and the PTF

## 7.4. COSTING OF ACTIONS SPECIFIC TO PRIORITY SOLUTIONS

**TABLE 13.** COSTING OF ACTIONS SPECIFIC TO PRIORITY SOLUTIONS

Bottlenecks	Priority solutions	
<p>a.1.1. Poor financial access by small-scale producers to inputs (seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zootechnical and veterinary products) and equipment</p>	<p>a.1.1.1. Extension of the scope of appropriate mechanisms for the partial or full subsidy of inputs and equipment, rotating credit arrangements and the guarantee system for small-scale producers</p>	

Actions	Cost 2011–2015 (millions FCFA)
Total subsidy for inputs and equipment	
. Total subsidy for seeds (millet/sorghum, cowpeas, kitchen garden crops) (tons) Indicator: 10 kg seeds/household per year (350,000 vulnerable households)	15,750
Total subsidy for urea and 15-15-15 (tons) Indicator: 25 kg/household (350 000 vulnerable households)	7,875
Total subsidy for plant health products (tons) Indicator: 0.5 kg/household (350 000 vulnerable households)	2,625
Total subsidy for vaccines (batch of 1,000 doses/community) Indicator: 50 rural communities	7,500
Total subsidy for animal feed (tons) Indicator: 100 tons/community for 50 rural communities	7,500
Total subsidy for anti-parasitic treatments for livestock (10 kg batches) Indicator: 350 kg/community for 50 rural communities	437.5
Total subsidy for equipment (small ploughing equipment, wheelbarrows) for 10,000 households/year	250
Partial subsidy for inputs and equipment	
Partial subsidy for seeds (millet/sorghum, cowpeas, kitchen garden crops) (tons) Indicator: 10 kg seeds/household (200,000 households ) per year	9000
Partial subsidy for urea and 15-15-15 (tons) Indicator: 25 kg/household (100,000 households)	3750
Partial subsidy for plant health products (tons) Indicator: 0.5 kg/household (100,000 vulnerable households)	750
Partial subsidy for animal feed (tons) 100 tons/community for 50 rural communities	4500
Partial subsidy for anti-parasitic treatments for livestock (10 kg batches) Indicator: 500 kg/community for 50 rural communities	625
Partial subsidy for equipment (animal-traction vehicles, carts, fishing equipment) for 5,000 households/year	2500
Credit for access to inputs (rotating credits, guarantee system) and to equipment	
Implementation of rotating/revolving credit arrangements for equipment (threshing machines, mills, extractors) for small-scale producers. 100 million F/year	500
Extension of credit guarantee system for small-scale agricultural producers in vulnerable areas: 2 million/shop/community (50 communities/year)	500

Bottlenecks	Priority solutions	
a.1.2. Poor physical access by small-scale producers to inputs (availability of stocks, distance from sales points, inputs shops, etc.) and equipment	a.1.2.1. Increase in the number of input shops and equipment, paying due attention to the importance of spatial distribution in line with the needs of small-scale producers	
	a.1.2.2. Promotion of local input production (improved seeds, fertilizers, plant health, zoo-technical (animal feed) and veterinary products] and equipment	
a.2.1. Low productivity and extreme vulnerability of agropastoral production to climatic conditions	a.2.1.1. Extension and support for the adoption of crop diversification and association techniques (secondary crops, fertilizing crops, cereals and legumes, forage crops); for the CES/DRS (demi-lune, banquettes, zai) and adaptation to climatic conditions (short-cycle crops, drought and pest-tolerant crops)	
	a.2.1.2. Safety and improvement of sustainable animal management in rural and peri-urban areas against climate hazards (stocking techniques, strategic destocking, development of resistant and productive local species)	
b.1.1. Inadequacy of means (human, material, financial and technical) by which to support small-scale producers and their organization	b.1.1.1. Capacity-building of the structures in charge (INRAN, IPDR, decentralized State services), with a special focus on the recruitment of women	
	b.1.1.2. Mobilization and training of young rural, uneducated girls/ boys (National Volunteer Agency, National Participatory Service, Community Development Training Centre) on advice-support issues	
	b.1.1.3. Improvement of the technical capacities of small-scale producers and producers' organizations: planning, update of technical manuals and dissemination of their contents through different channels	
b.2.1. Low capacity of agricultural producers to access and use irrigation and cultivation techniques	b.2.1.1. Extension of the implementation of small-scale irrigation projects for agricultural purposes	

	Actions	Cost 2011–2015 (millions FCFA)
	Establishment of shops for inputs and equipment (2 shops per rural community for 214 rural communities) Indicator: 2 shops/rural community/year	1,070
	Support for local input production (seeds, phosphate fertilizers, bio pesticides, vaccines) and equipment (seed drills, crop treatment apparatus, hulling machines, winnowing machines) within the Public-Private-OP Partnership framework	2,500
	Support to OP for the production of improved seeds, fertilizers (compost), plant health products (vegetable oils), livestock feed (urea blocks, mineral licks, concentrates) and equipment (ploughing equipment, hand-operated treatment apparatus)	500
	Reclamation and development of degraded lands (hectares) Indicator: 10,000 ha/year	7500
	Implementation of ongoing stocking/destocking operations and introduction of adapted local species in vulnerable areas (Maradi, Tahoua, Tillabéri, Zinder): Support funds for introducing resistant and productive animal species: 100 million F/year	500
	Recruitment of field supervisors (number of supervisors): 50 agents/year (50 communes) at least 20 of them women	300
	Reappointment of field supervisors (number of supervisors): Indicator: 2 agents/community/year (50 communities)	25
	Acquisition, maintenance and reconditioning of motorcycles, provision of fuel and safety helmets (number): 1 motorcycle/agent (150 agents)	262.5
	Mobilization of girls/boys for rural development (number): 500 young people/year at least 200 of them girls	625
	Organization of technical training sessions for the benefit of girls/boys for rural development	125
	Allocation for redeployment of girls/boys for rural development in communities	125
	Updating and production of dissemination fact sheets (with translation into different languages)	500
	Dissemination of information (radio, television, listening groups, printed materials, etc.)	500
	Equipment for small-scale agricultural producers in the form of tools for small-scale irrigation: 1 full set of equipment/household (1,000 households/year)	250
	Management of small agricultural areas irrigated at low cost: 200 ha/year	5000

Bottlenecks	Priority solutions	
b.2.2. Poor networking of water points for livestock in pastoral areas	b.2.2.1. Increase in the number of water points for livestock in pastoral areas	
b.2.3. Low capacity of small-scale producers for acquiring equipment and installations needed around water points	b.2.3.1. Establishment of suitable financing mechanisms at community level, for small-scale producers	
c.1.1. Inadequacies in the identification and targeting of vulnerable groups, insufficient traceability of allocated funds and coordination of interventions in their favour	c.1.1.1. Harmonization, coordination and implementation of targeting and intervention methods for vulnerable groups, and traceability of resources allocated to them (improved mapping of vulnerable areas, identification of vulnerable households, coordination of interveners etc.) through the use of surveys and participatory assessments	
c.1.2. Poor adaptation of social safety net to the needs of vulnerable households and insufficient viable IGA capable of sustainably securing vulnerable households	c.1.2.1. Strengthening and implementation of recovery and livelihood restoration programmes for the most vulnerable through the use of adapted social safety nets (cash/food for work for the creation of rural infrastructures, movement corridors, targeting distribution of free food, cash transfers, vouchers)	
d.1.1. Lack of knowledge about the nutritional value of foodstuffs and persistence of sociocultural influences unfavourable to proper nutrition	d.1.1.1. Upscaling of IEC/CCC local programmes aimed at promoting proper feeding practices for infants and young children; use of preventive health services	

	Actions	Cost 2011–2015 (millions FCFA)
	Rehabilitation of wells and boreholes for livestock in pastoral areas: 25 wells/year	200
	Management of existing pools for livestock in pastoral areas: 10 pools/year	200
	Construction of new water points (retention tanks, wells and boreholes) for livestock in pastoral areas: 10 water points/year	400
	Creation of credit systems adapted to the rural sector for small-scale producers and their organizations	500
	Conducting participatory surveys/assessments (information on identifying vulnerable households and DSBE) for identifying areas at risk and vulnerable households. Number of operations:	200
	Organization of periodic consultation meetings (PTF, GoN, NGOs/associations, civil society, grassroots organizations)	250
	Execution of Cash for Work programmes (earmarking of areas for pasturing and movement corridors, rural landing strips, fire strips, micro dams, water and soil conservation / soil protection and restoration: banquettes, small walls, demi-lunes, cordons pierreux, protection of wadi banks, removal of sand from ponds): 900 million F/year	4,500
	Execution of Food for Work programmes (earmarking of areas for pasturing and movement corridors, rural landing strips, fire strips, micro dams, water and soil conservation / soil protection and restoration: banquettes, small walls, demi-lunes, cordons pierreux, protection of wadi banks, removal of sand from ponds): 10,000 tons (as 1500 million F/year)	7,500
	Execution of programmes to sell food products at controlled prices: 45,000 tons (6,750 million F/year)	33,750
	Execution of national cash transfer programme: Vouchers, supervision and training of beneficiaries in correct use of resources, promotion of utilization of grassroots social services (health, nutrition, education, hygiene / sanitation): 50 million F/year	250
	Execution of national targeted free distribution programme: 3000 million F/year	15,000
	Creation of credit systems for promoting IGAs for vulnerable groups: 250 million F/year	1250
	Increasing awareness-raising campaigns (2 per year) targeting especially the role of women and involvement of young people: Reproduction of technical manuals and fact sheets in national languages (flip charts), community radio, advice-support and cookery demonstrations, public announcements, listening groups, opinion leaders, use of 'champions', training: 2 campaigns/year	500

Bottlenecks	Priority solutions	
d.1.2. Poor access by vulnerable groups, (children between 0-5 years, school-age children, pregnant/breastfeeding women) to adequate nutrition	d.1.2.1. Promotion of fortified locally/community produced foods for malnourished preschool children and children of school age	
	d.1.2.2. Improved access to prenatal screening and promotion of maternal nutrition	
d.1.3. Poor access to clean water	d.1.3.1. Sinking and rehabilitation of cemented wells, boreholes, pastoral pumping stations and AEP in rural and peri-rural areas; promotion of treatment of drinking water in the home	
d.1.4. Low capacities for small-scale stocking, preservation and processing of agropastoral and fishing products	d.1.4.1. Application of adapted stocking technologies, preservation and processing of agropastoral products	
e.1.1. Shortcomings in the functioning and intervention of DNP-GCA local management committees	e.1.1.1. Capacity building for the functioning, intervention and recovery of local DNP-GCA management committees	
e.1.2. Lack of a national contingency plan for exceptional natural disasters	e.1.2.1. Formulation of a national multi-risk contingency plan	
<b>Total cost (of which 50% is operating costs, implementation and monitoring-evaluation)</b>		



	Actions	Cost 2011–2015 (millions FCFA)
	Support for strengthening existing production units and initiatives (LTA-INRAN, women's' groups, local food preservation and processing businesses):	500
	Support for improving the quantity and quality of food intake at grassroots level (school canteens): 10 million/community/year (50 communities)	2,500
	Extension of activities of mobile and travelling clinics (Minimum Activity Package / Integrated Care for Childhood Diseases; promotion of Community-Based Approach to Growth, promotion of micronutrient consumption): 1 million/community (50 communities)	250
	Rehabilitation of modern water points (cemented wells, boreholes, SPP and AEP), training for maintenance committees and water point management: 1 water point/community (50 in total)	250
	Creation of new clean water points (cemented wells, boreholes, SPP and AEP): 1 water point/community (10 communities)	250
	Training and awareness-raising campaigns on clean water management (installation maintenance, cost-covering, potability) at individual or community level	0
	Construction and equipping of storage silos and stores for conservation of agropastoral products (cowpeas, legumes): 1 silo/community/year (50 communities)	1,250
	Promotion of ecological smoking kilns (drying fish and meat), solar kilns (drying flours and grains) and covers for drying green fodder: 1 kiln/community (50 communities)	250
	Strengthening and installation of small processing units for agropastoral and fishing products: 1 unit/community (25 communities)	1,250
	Promotion of multifunctional platforms and other renewable energy sources	0
	Development and testing of regional contingency plans linked to the National Contingency Plan (Food and Nutrition Security section): 1 assessment every 2 years	300
	Strengthening means of functioning and intervention of local DNP/GCA management committees: 15 million F/region/year	1,000
	Organizing exercises to feedback from experience (post crisis reckoning) in the field of managing emergency food and nutrition situations	300
	Updating of sectoral contingency plan for food and nutritional crises	300
	Strengthening national and local capacities in emergency planning	250
	Implementation of coordination and updating mechanisms for sector Convergence Plans (food, nutrition, health, population migration, etc.)	750
	Implementation and start up of national platform for disaster risk management	1500
	Implementation of surveillance posts	100
		159,345
		<b>239,017.50</b>





