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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS— NIGER 200583

**Saving Lives, Protecting Livelihoods and
Enhancing the Resilience of Chronically
Vulnerable Populations**

Number of beneficiaries	7,124,000
Duration of project	3 years (January 2014–December 2016)
WFP food tonnage	564,386 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
Food transfers	325,395,779
Cash and vouchers	232,644,121
Capacity development and augmentation	3,198,452
Total cost to WFP	1,017,562,008

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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

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Should you have any questions regarding availability of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chronic food insecurity affects 2.5 million people in the Niger; millions more are affected by transitory food insecurity during lean seasons, leading to increased mortality among young children. Chronic malnutrition affects half of all children, and acute malnutrition rates reach the World Health Organization's emergency threshold.

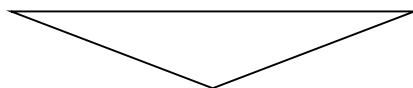
Poor households increasingly rely on coping mechanisms that drain their resources, limit human capital development and reduce their capacity to cope with shocks; the most vulnerable take one to three years to recover from a crisis. Assistance over an extended period is needed to lift communities out of extreme poverty and enhance their resilience to shocks.

Protracted relief and recovery operation 200583, in accordance with the Strategic Plan (2014–2017), aims to save lives, protect livelihoods and enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities through food and cash transfer modalities. The aims are:

- *Reduce the impact of seasonal stresses and prevent a peak in acute malnutrition and mortality, focusing on children under 2 as part of a safety net for households (Strategic Objective 1).*
- *Increase access to assets and food through land regeneration, water harvesting and local purchases (Strategic Objective 3).*
- *Support integrated safety nets: treat acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women, and implement community-based interventions to prevent malnutrition and improve access to and retention in education (Strategic Objective 4).*

WFP has worked with the Government and other partners to provide an integrated, flexible assistance package for the targeted communities. Capacity development will be mainstreamed throughout the project with a view to maximizing sustainability, with support from the Government. Community-led responses implemented with partners will address seasonal needs.

DRAFT DECISION*



The Board approves the proposed protracted relief and recovery operation – the Niger 200583 “Saving Lives, Protecting Livelihoods and Enhancing the Resilience of Chronically Vulnerable Populations” (WFP/EB.2/2013/7-C/3/Rev.1).

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Context

1. The Niger, a landlocked, low-income and food-deficit country, ranks last of 186 countries in the human development index and 146th of 148 in gender inequality. Life expectancy at birth is 55 years; one in eight children will not reach 5. Of children under 5, 42 percent are chronically malnourished and 14.8 percent acutely malnourished; malnutrition is linked to a third of childhood deaths.
2. The population of 17 million is predominantly rural and concentrated in the south; 44 percent live on less than US\$ 1.25 per day, and 80 percent live in severe poverty. The growth rate is 3.5 percent, with half the population under 15. Lack of infrastructure, safe water and sanitation, low schooling, restricted production capacity, limited access to markets, gender disparities and the urban/rural divide hinder development. Three quarters of the population – and 85 percent of women – cannot read.
3. The security situation is stable, but in view of regional tensions the Government has increased security measures to counteract cross-border threats and minimize risks such as loss of remittances and income opportunities, reduced trade flows and fluctuating food prices.

Food Security and Nutrition

4. During the 2011/12 crisis, 6.4 million people were food-insecure in the lean season, reflecting the limited resilience of poor households.
5. The Niger has experienced ten food crises since 1967, four since 2000 with an average of three years between them. Two years after the 2009/10 crop failure, food security had not returned to pre-crisis levels in most districts. The poorest households take three years or more to recover, and a year after the crisis food-security indicators continued to decline in half of the surveyed districts, despite the good harvest in 2010.
6. Farming supports 80 percent of the population. But crop production is limited by poor rainfall, drought, locust outbreaks, crop diseases and land degradation. Competition for land resulting from rapid population growth leads to planting in marginal soils; the situation is exacerbated by inequitable land rights for women, limited access to quality seed, outdated farming methods, poor roads, limited market access and insufficient food processing.
7. Recurrent shocks have reduced community resilience. Poor households report high levels of indebtedness, lack of assets or livestock, limited production capacity and insufficient food to eat or sell until the next harvest. Recurrent crises promote migration and weaken social networks. Good harvests do not have a sustained impact on food security or livelihood recovery for households that have lost assets and livestock.
8. When access to food is constrained households rely on negative coping mechanisms such as changing consumption patterns, borrowing, migration, taking children out of school and selling assets. These short-term strategies weaken household finances, limit human capital development and reduce long-term resilience to shocks.
9. Poor households are affected by seasonal food and fuel price changes. Repayment of debts may explain why household cereal stocks remain low even after a good harvest; rural households are further disadvantaged by declining terms of trade for livestock and cereals. Despite the good harvest in 2013, staple food prices have not returned to pre-crisis levels; the regional price of millet remains above 5-year and 20-year averages.

10. The situation of women and households headed by women in rural areas is a concern in view of the migration of men, lack of access to basic services and markets and inequitable rights to land and assets, even though women's rights to resources are protected in law. Women heads of household are likely to be widows relying on a single source of revenue and dependent on remittances and trade.
11. Regional insecurity also affects vulnerable communities. The influx of Malian refugees into Tillaberi, Tahoua and Niamey since January 2012 has reduced the precarious food security of host communities. Traditional cross-border pastoralist movements are constrained by insecurity in Mali and Nigeria.
12. Pervasive malnutrition is a major obstacle to development. The high prevalence of wasting, stunting and underweight results from: i) limited access to food; ii) respiratory infections, malaria and diarrhoea; iii) incomplete vaccination coverage; iv) lack of clean water and sanitation; v) limited access to health services; and vi) insufficient knowledge of hygiene and childcare.
13. Global acute malnutrition (GAM) among children aged 6–59 months is consistently above the World Health Organization (WHO) “serious” threshold of 10 percent; when food is scarce, GAM rapidly exceeds the “emergency” threshold of 15 percent. A nutrition survey in the 2012 crisis found that 14.8 percent of children aged 6–59 months suffered from GAM. In rural areas, 15.7 percent of children are acutely malnourished, compared with 10.7 percent in urban areas; in Zinder, Maradi, Tillaberi and Diffa, GAM prevalence is above the emergency threshold. The national GAM prevalence of 22.9 percent among children aged 6–23 months is a particular concern.
14. One in three children is underweight; chronic malnutrition affects 42 percent of children aged 6–59 months. Since 2007, the proportion of chronically malnourished children has remained above the 40 percent “critical” threshold. The prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies is alarming: 73 percent of children and 46 percent of women are anaemic; 98 percent of infants are reportedly breastfed, but only 23 percent exclusively so.
15. School enrolment has gradually risen: gross primary school enrolment is 79.2 percent, compared with 62.1 percent in 2007/08; enrolment among girls rose from 53.1 percent to 70.7 percent in the same period. In rural areas, enrolment increased from 58.4 percent to 71.4 percent. But disparities remain: in 2011/12, the ratio of girls to boys was 0.8 and the ratio of urban to rural enrolment was 1.5.
16. Only 55.8 percent of children finish primary school; in rural areas the figure is lower. Drop-out rates increase as households migrate, and boys often assist with cattle and crops and girls work in the home rather than going to school.
17. Poor households in shock-prone environments are affected by structural vulnerabilities and recurrent food crises. At the household level, the effects of crises continue long after a single agricultural cycle: assistance must be given over an extended period to enhance resilience.
18. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 200583 is planned to cover one major crisis; analysis of rainfall, agricultural production and prices and monitoring of household food-security indicators will enable WFP to adjust its response.
19. WFP is engaging with the Government to prioritize long-term resilience with a view to sustainable development; this is supported by partnerships with United Nations agencies, community-led planning and engagement with donors to build lasting support.

POLICIES, CAPACITIES AND ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS

Government

20. The Government's *Plan de développement économique et sociale* (PDES, Economic and Social Development Plan) 2012–2015 aims to manage shocks in the short-term and to define long-term development strategies; it prioritizes food security, good governance, national security and the development of human capital and infrastructure.
21. One element of the PDES is the *Nigériens nourrissent les Nigériens* (3N, Nigeriens Feeding Nigeriens), which promotes long-term food security and agricultural development; it also reinforces linkages between the ministries of health, education, and agriculture and livestock and with multi-sectoral responses by United Nations agencies and partners. The 3N initiative is the national owner of Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Undernutrition (REACH) and is aligned with the Global Alliance for Resilience. It coordinates the national nutrition policy, and in partnership with WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is developing home-grown school feeding and linking increased agricultural production and market access with safety nets, in line with the Purchase from Africans for Africa initiative.
22. In 2012, the Government declared improved access to and quality of education as a national goal. Priorities include increasing attendance, improving nutrition, hygiene and sanitation, and promoting access to education for nomad children. The Government has requested an expansion of WFP's school feeding programme in nomadic areas, with support from UNICEF.
23. The national gender policy adopted in 2008 promotes women's economic empowerment and leadership, with targeted capacity development and reduction of gender-based violence as priorities. In PDES, reducing gender inequalities is part of its promotion of social development.
24. The Government's *Dispositif national de prévention et de gestion des catastrophes et des crises alimentaires* (DNPGCCA, National Mechanism for the Prevention and Management of Disasters and Food Crises) guides humanitarian interventions. Its *Cellule de coordination du système d'alerte précoce et prévention des crises* (CC/SAP/PC, coordination unit of the early warning and crisis prevention system) monitors food security and nutrition; the *cellules crises alimentaires et gestion des catastrophes* (food crisis and disaster management units) coordinate partners' activities. The National Institute of Statistics collects data for annual vulnerability and nutrition surveys. WFP helps to build government capacities in vulnerability mapping and analysis.

Other Major Actors

25. WFP, FAO and UNICEF will work with 3N to enhance resilience, using school feeding and agricultural production as entry points for a package of interventions in communes with chronic vulnerabilities. Where possible, a single cooperating partner will deliver all services in a given community.

26. WFP has bilateral agreements with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and FAO to enhance community assets, agricultural production, local purchasing, access to markets and school garden initiatives; WFP and UNICEF have a coordinated action plan for nutrition and education.
27. Other United Nations initiatives are: i) REACH, involving FAO, UNICEF, WFP and the World Health Organization; ii) Nourishing Bodies, Nourishing Minds – WFP, UNICEF and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and iii) Accelerating Progress toward the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women – WFP, FAO, IFAD and UNWomen.
28. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework for 2014–2018 and the Consolidated Appeals Process guide partners' interventions. WFP and FAO co-lead the food security cluster; WFP is a member of the nutrition technical group and the education cluster, and leads the logistics and emergency telecommunications clusters.

OBJECTIVES OF WFP ASSISTANCE

29. PRRO 200583 will enhance the resilience of communities in fragile ecosystems. During lean seasons, a targeted safety net will mitigate the effects on lives and livelihoods. Households' access to assets and food will be promoted through land regeneration, water harvesting and local purchases. Safety nets will be extended to prevent malnutrition and provide school feeding; capacity development will be part of all activities.

WFP RESPONSE STRATEGY

30. Since 2011, WFP and its partners have developed large-scale interventions to pre-empt transitory food insecurity, malnutrition and mortality, and studied approaches such as cash and food transfers. The Government and all parties agree that harmonized, multi-sectoral programmes are the optimum approach.

Nature and Effectiveness of Food Security-Related Assistance to Date

31. Monitoring in 2012 found that pre-emptive food, cash or vouchers for assets – referred to as food assistance for assets (FFA) – increased household incomes, reduced migration and limited negative coping strategies, and that WFP's school feeding reduced drop-outs. During the lean season, a safety net protected gains and maintained food consumption: analyses showed that GAM incidence and mortality rates were reduced more by including child-specific food supplements with household cash allowances than by providing cash alone (see Annex IV for more detail).

Strategy Outline

32. The strategy follows the 2012 country portfolio external evaluation, which recommended consolidating interventions in a single programme category to enable flexible response, and is aligned with the 2014–2018 United Nations Development Assistance Framework. The emergency operations for refugees and humanitarian air services will continue.
33. WFP supports vulnerable groups such as children and women of reproductive age at risk of malnutrition and with limited access to health services, small-scale farmers with limited access to markets and rural children, particularly girls and nomads, with limited access to education.

34. Enhanced partnerships, community participation and integrated programming are basic to WFP's approach to building resilience. Long-term resilience interventions are developed in a consultative approach.

35. At the national level, PRRO 200583 contributes to PDES, REACH and Education for All, and encompasses the community resilience strategy and development of a home-grown school feeding programme. At the middle level, seasonal livelihood planning (SLP) develops resilience-building for particular groups and livelihood zones and identifies complementary interventions. At the local level, WFP and partners work with villages on community-specific plans for land rehabilitation, water harvesting, environmental protection and training. There are plans for FFA and complementary long-term investments involving partners; community-based plans will be developed for 20 percent of the targeted communities and scaled up when possible.

⇒ *Reducing the impact of seasonal stresses and shocks on lives and livelihoods – lean season (June to September)*

36. *Targeted assistance in the form of food, cash or vouchers*, a safety net for very poor households during lean seasons, will be implemented to protect assets and livelihoods and prevent acute malnutrition.

37. *Blanket supplementary feeding (BSF)* will provide nutritional supplements in very poor households to prevent acute malnutrition and mortality: it will target children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with infants. It will be linked to the lean season TFA safety net. Children with acute malnutrition will be referred to treatment programmes.

⇒ *Increasing access to assets and food – post-harvest season (November to May)*

38. FFA will focus on land rehabilitation, water harvesting and irrigation through partnerships in pastoral zones. Asset development will be maximized through technical expertise, inputs from partners and government technical services. The inclusion of some easier activities and unconditional transfers will ensure that labour-constrained households also benefit.

39. *Local purchases from smallholder farmers* promote access to markets, economic growth and agricultural development. Since 2013, WFP has worked with farmers' organizations in Dosso, Maradi, Zinder and Agadez to procure surpluses of cereals, pulses and salt for school feeding: this will be scaled up as conditions allow. The initiative is aligned with the WFP, FAO, IFAD and UNWomen initiative to empower rural women.

⇒ *Supporting integrated safety nets – year-round*

40. *Targeted supplementary feeding (TSF)* targets moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) among children aged 6–59 months and PLW through government health facilities. Beneficiaries are screened at health centres or identified through WFP and UNICEF community screening. WFP provides cooked meals for caregivers with child patients to reduce drop-outs.

41. WFP and UNICEF are promoting good nutrition through sensitization with regard to water, sanitation and hygiene, and home-based treatment for children at risk of acute malnutrition. WFP and its partners are developing optimal ways of reducing stunting.

42. *School feeding* will provide daily cooked meals, complemented by de-worming tablets provided by the Government. WFP will provide take-home rations for the families of girls in the final years of primary school and will support the Government in encouraging girls to

attend secondary school. Communities will be encouraged to construct canteens and warehouses and prepare meals.

43. School feeding will be linked with FFA and local purchasing and complemented by partners' interventions on health and nutrition education, teacher training and school gardens, and aligned with Nourishing Bodies, Nourishing Minds and the home-grown school feeding initiative.
44. Capacity development for the Government, partners, counterparts and communities is mainstreamed in all interventions; 3N, DNPGCCA, CC/SAP/PC and food crisis and disaster management units reinforce technical capacities at the national level. Technical support enhances government capacities in vulnerability analysis and mapping, seasonal livelihood planning, monitoring and evaluation, early-warning systems and integration of the household economy approach, the *Système d'information sur les marchés agricoles* (Agricultural Market Monitoring System) and livestock management. WFP, the Government and partners support asset protection and agricultural production, manage cash-based and food-based safety nets, improve health structures and screening and increase access to quality education.
45. The Government and partners recognize that the current cereal bank programme requires improvement. No resources are budgeted for this, but WFP will continue to support the programme.

Hand-Over Strategy

46. Hand-over focuses on capacity reinforcement, in particular through DNPGCCA. The Government is willing to take on assistance programmes, especially school feeding, but capacities are lacking. WFP and partners collaborate on community planning and development, establishment of asset-management committees, improvements to early-warning systems, safety nets, outreach health services and women's leadership. During PRRO 200583, WFP will help the Government to establish a plan for ownership of programmes such as home-grown school feeding.
47. Activities can be scaled up or down as required: towards the end of PRRO 200583, WFP could reduce lean-season activities if resilience-building offsets the need for food assistance. WFP can also scale up local purchasing.

BENEFICIARIES AND TARGETING

48. Targeting identifies areas where food insecurity was over 30 percent from 2006 to 2011 and where GAM has been above the 15 percent emergency threshold at least twice. Indicators for school completion, prevalence of nomadism, agricultural potential and convergence of partners' activities have been integrated into the process.
49. FFA and TFA linked to BSF will be implemented in Agadez, Diffa, Dosso, Maradi, Tahoua, Tillaberi and Zinder; TSF to address MAM will continue through the Government health system.
50. The number of school feeding beneficiaries will double from 2012 in response to the Government's request. Because capacity limitations prevent complete coverage in all areas with FFA, TFA and BSF interventions, school feeding will target communes in Diffa, Dosso, Maradi, Tahoua, Tillaberi and Zinder where indicators converge. WFP plans to cover 80 percent of school-age children; in nomadic areas coverage will be higher.

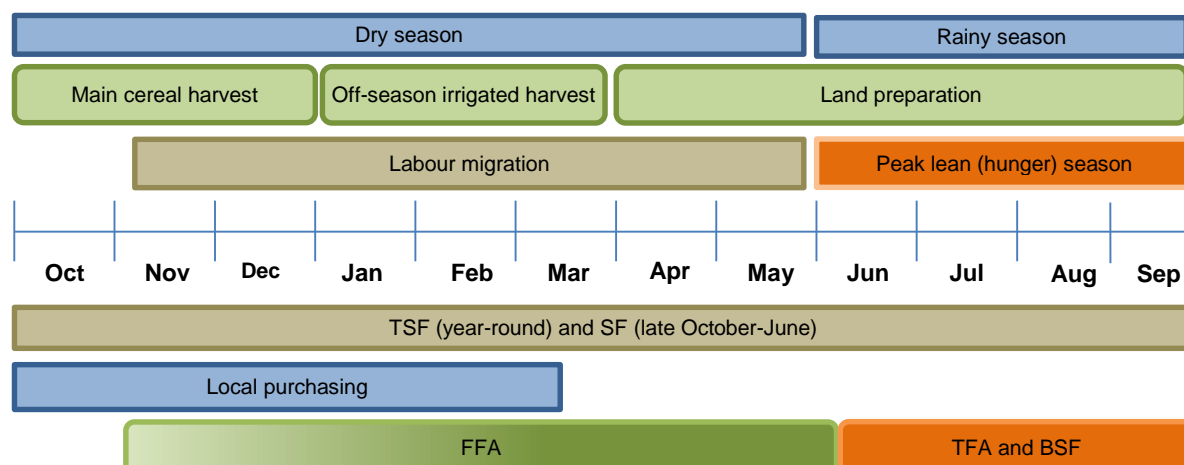
51. In the event of a shock or large-scale crisis, targeting and beneficiary estimates can be aligned with vulnerability, nutrition and crop assessments and early-warning information.

TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY						
Activity	2014	2015	2016	Sub-total	Contingency	Adjusted total*
Reducing the impact of shocks						
TFA/food	808 000	818 000	844 000	1 250 000	445 000	1 676 000
TFA/cash	808 000	818 000	844 000	1 250 000	445 000	1 676 000
BSF: 6–23 months	126 000	128 000	132 000	385 000	69 000	455 000
BSF: PLW	145 000	146 000	151 000	442 000	80 000	521 000
Increasing access to assets and food						
FFA/food	774 000	785 000	810 000	1 156 000	-	1 156 000
FFA/cash	774 000	785 000	810 000	1 156 000	-	1 156 000
Supporting integrated safety nets						
TSF: 6–59 months	650 000	672 000	709 000	1 994 000	-	1 994 000
TSF: PLW	272 000	272 000	272 000	634 000	-	634 000
TSF: caregivers	75 000	78 000	82 000	235 000	-	235 000
School feeding: meals	389 000	408 000	429 000	498 000	-	498 000
School feeding: take-home ration	237 000	249 000	261 000	310 000	-	310 000
Adjusted total*	3 379 000	3 453 000	3 580 000	6 272 000	852 000	7 124 000

* Adjusted to limit double counting: 100 percent overlap between BSF and TFA; 9 percent overlap between SF and TSF; 80 percent overlap in food security responses.

52. Household targeting for FFA, TFA and BSF will be undertaken jointly by partners, village committees and WFP; the criteria for very poor households will be defined at the community level using the household economy approach.
53. Beneficiary estimates for FFA and TFA have been based on analyses of food insecurity since 2006. A 15 percent increase in beneficiaries is anticipated in the lean season; very poor households receiving lean season TFA, PLW and children aged 6–23 months will receive complementary BSF. A larger TFA and BSF intervention is to be included if a crisis occurs.
54. In TSF, malnourished children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women will be referred for treatment. A 5 percent annual increase in school feeding beneficiaries is planned on the basis of annual increases observed in WFP-assisted schools.
55. Activities will be targeted according to the seasonal calendar of a non-crisis year (see Figure 1). As the lean season approaches, access to food decreases, negative coping strategies increase and acute malnutrition peaks: responses preceding lean seasons must therefore be increased. SLP will enable WFP to refine the timeline of interventions.
56. The choice of food or cash transfer takes into account price trends and food availability. Cash will exceed food transfers in post-harvest months; the proportions will be more even as the lean season approaches. WFP will monitor markets and adjust the modalities accordingly.

Figure 1: Seasonal Normal Year Calendar of Critical Events and WFP Activities



NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RATIONS/VALUE OF CASH TRANSFERS

TABLE 2: RATION BY ACTIVITY (g/person/day)								
	Education		Nutrition				Food security	
	Sedentary	Nomad	TSF: 6-59 mos.	BSF: 6-23 mos.	TSF/BSF : PLW	Caregivers	FFA	TFA
Cereals	175	295	-	-	-	350	500	500
Pulses	40	70	-	-	-	60	100	100
Vegetable oil	25	40	-	-	25	20	20	20
SuperCereal (with sugar)	80	80	-	-	250	100	-	-
SuperCereal plus	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-
Salt	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plumpy'Sup	-	-	92	-	-	-	-	-
Total (g/person/day)	324	492	92	200	275	530	620	620
Total kcal/day	1 247	1 882	500	787	1 175	1 627	2 187	2 187
% kcal from protein	12.7	12.5	10.2	16.6	13.2	13.2	13.7	13.7
% kcal from fat	26.9	26.9	54.9	23.2	34.9	18.2	14.9	14.9
Cash (US\$/person/day)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.40	0.33
Days that food/cash is provided/month	20	30	30	30	30	21	25	30
Planned months per year	8	8	2-3	4	TSF: 6 BSF: 4	1	4 or 7	4

57. The transfer value of TFA and FFA cash matches the value of the food basket; it is established in consultation with the Government and the Cash Learning Partnership on the basis of food price projections and the average daily labour wage. Potential micronutrient deficiencies are addressed through nutrition interventions and sensitization about dietary diversity.
58. The rations address micronutrient deficiencies by providing oil enriched with vitamin A, iodized salt, fortified blended foods and supplementary foods.
59. Girls in the final years of primary school receive a take-home ration of 50 kg of cereal twice during the school year; WFP covers the daily requirements for nomad children in boarding schools or with hosts. Pupils receive a breakfast of SuperCereal with sugar and oil, a lunch of cereals, pulses, oil and salt; nomadic children also receive dinner.

TABLE 3: FOOD AND CASH REQUIREMENTS BY ACTIVITY (mt)

	TFA	TFA: contingency	BSF	BSF: contingency	FFA	SF	TSF	Total
Cereals	148 209	26 713	-	-	145 037	44 823	1 728	366 510
Pulses	29 642	5 342	-	-	29 008	10 397	296	74 685
Vegetable oil	5 928	1 068	1 326	239	5 801	6 274	3 767	24 403
SuperCereal (with sugar)	-	-	13 256	2 389	-	17 202	37 177	70 024
SuperCereal Plus	-	-	9 248	1 667	-	-	-	10 915
Salt	-	-	-	-	-	1 040	-	1 040
Plumpy'Sup	-	-	-	-	-	-	16 809	16 809
Total mt	183 779	33 123	23 830	4 295	179 846	79 736	59 777	564 386
Cash (US\$)	98 805 860	17 808 420	-	-	116 029 841	-	-	232 644 121

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

60. TFA and FFA are coordinated through DNPGCCA and aligned with national and community plans. Beneficiary targeting, registration, sensitization and organization at distribution points for the food-security activities will be undertaken by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and local authorities. WFP will transfer cash to microfinance institutions and NGOs for delivery. Distributions will take place twice a month for FFA and once a month for TFA. Radio messages in local languages inform beneficiaries about the activities.
61. To ensure wide coverage, food will be distributed from community distribution sites. Beneficiaries will be registered by NGO partners and given ration cards. Caregivers will be trained to prepare nutritional products, in collaboration with UNICEF. Partners will work on screening and referral with government health structures and community workers.

62. WFP will collaborate with UNICEF and the Government on TSF. Delivery modalities, entry and discharge criteria and treatment duration for children and women will be aligned with the national nutrition protocol. Take-home rations will be provided for two-week periods to encourage follow-up monitoring. WFP, its partners and government health staff will seek to distribute full-month rations to remote households. WFP will collaborate with the Ministry of Education on school feeding.
63. Where possible, WFP will identify a single partner to deliver services in a given community to avoid duplication and minimize costs. Partnerships with NGOs will be based on field-level agreements; WFP's standard contract for financial services will be used for microfinance institutions. Cooperating partners will report regularly on monitoring and distribution.

Participation

64. The participatory planning approach and SLP ensure that processes are community-led; committees at each site encourage transparency and participation. Management committees for FFA monitor implementation, supervise participation and remuneration, and ensure that assets are protected. Village-level sensitization encourages women to participate on an equal basis in management committees. WFP is establishing a complaints system for beneficiaries wishing to contest inconsistencies.

Procurement

65. To reduce transit times WFP will procure food regionally, particularly cereals and pulses; its advance financing and forward purchase systems will secure food at favourable prices and reduce lead times. WFP expects to procure 15 percent of food locally, 20 percent from Benin, Nigeria and Togo and 65 percent internationally; up to 3,000 mt per year will be procured in the Niger. Nutritional products will be imported. WFP and a local manufacturer are considering the production of Plumpy'Sup.

Logistics

66. Internationally-procured food will arrive at Lomé in Togo, Cotonou in Benin and Tema in Ghana for delivery to the Niger. WFP has seven warehouses in the Niger with storage capacity for 40,000 mt; ten mobile warehouses can also be installed. Food will be delivered to partners and distribution points in commercial trucks; WFP's small fleet of trucks will be used where road access is difficult. Cross-border transport is complicated and expensive.
67. The WFP-managed United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) has a contingency plan for airlifting light cargo.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

68. WFP's on-site monitoring will continue throughout the year to ensure that distributions are implemented as planned and to verify the accuracy of partners' reports. Deliveries will be reported daily, and distribution figures monthly. Data-collection systems will be updated to optimize reporting on indicators for enhanced commitments to women.
69. Three post-distribution analyses will be carried out annually. Evaluations will be conducted through cohort analysis; a control group of non-beneficiaries may also be sampled. The outcome of the integrated approach will be specially monitored; it will involve working with partners to identify indicators. WFP will coordinate evaluations with the National Institute of Statistics.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Programmatic Risks

70. Monitoring and evaluation will ensure that targeting and assistance are effective. WFP will work with its partners to ensure that labour-intensive activities produce quality assets. The capacities of WFP and partner staff will be enhanced; WFP will provide equipment and funding to support technical services. Sensitization will encourage community leaders, women and young people to be involved in committees and will reduce risks for marginalized groups. WFP will: i) minimize the risks related to cash transfers by agreeing on security arrangements with stakeholders; ii) continue to build partners' capacities; and iii) ensure transparency during transfers, for example through oversight committees at each site. There will be a daily limit for cash transfers.

Contextual Risks

71. Security is fragile. If it deteriorates, stronger security measures may be required and humanitarian access may be reduced. Variations in food prices and availability constitute a risk when food is scarce; WFP will take proactive measures to mitigate negative effects.

Institutional Risks

72. The 2012 crisis showed that WFP can implement large-scale responses during a complex crisis. Since then WFP has communicated regularly with donors about supporting chronically vulnerable communities and will seek to build long-term support.

Security Risk Management

73. WFP complies with United Nations minimum operating security and telecommunications standards. Security plans are updated regularly, and staff capacities have been increased in western, central and eastern regions. Security training for WFP field staff will continue. WFP collaborates with the United Nations country team through the United Nations Department of Safety and Security and the United Nations security management team.

74. The information and communications technology (ICT) unit works with the United Nations Development Programme telecommunications cell to maintain the communications network. The United Nations Department of Safety and Security radio rooms have mobile telephones; the WFP Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team is helping to upgrade the United Nations radio network in Niamey.

75. The UNHAS conducts regular flights in collaboration with the WFP security team and provides security and medical evacuations and stand-by emergency support for the humanitarian community.

ANNEX I-A

PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN			
	Quantity (mt)	Value (US\$)	Value (US\$)
Food			
Cereals	366 510	149 554 607	
Pulses	74 685	48 462 645	
Oil and fats	24 403	22 402 383	
Mixed and blended food	97 748	104 818 112	
Others	1 040	158 032	
Total food	564 386	325 395 779	
External transport		51 216 821	
Landside transport, storage and handling		141 486 002	
Other direct operational costs: food		66 768 252	
Food and related costs¹		584 866 854	584 866 854
Cash and vouchers		232 644 121	
Related costs		49 864 683	
Cash and vouchers and related costs		282 508 804	282 508 804
Capacity development and augmentation		3 198 452	3 198 452
Direct operational costs			870 574 110
Direct support costs ² (see Annex I-B)			80 418 421
Total direct project costs			950 992 531
Indirect support costs (7.0 percent) ³			66 569 477
TOTAL WFP COSTS			1 017 562 008

¹ This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

² Indicative figure for information purposes. The direct support cost allotment is reviewed annually.

³ The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.

ANNEX I-B

DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	
WFP staff and staff-related	
Professional staff	27 962 417
General service staff	14 633 222
Danger pay and local allowances	70 000
Subtotal	42 665 639
Recurring and other	7 399 501
Capital equipment	3 450 000
Security	4 196 550
Travel and transport	16 933 400
Assessments, evaluations and monitoring¹	5 773 331
TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS	80 418 421

¹ Reflects estimated costs when activities are carried out by third parties; if WFP carries them out, the costs are included in the staff and travel lines.

ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK ¹		
Results	Performance Indicators	Assumptions
Strategic Objective 1 – Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies		
Outcome 1.1 Stabilize undernutrition among targeted children under 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Proportion of eligible population who participate as % of planned Target: 100% 	Food security and nutrition activities are coordinated to maximize impact. Partners have adequate capacity and resources to implement complementary activities as planned. No major epidemics occur.
Output 1.1.1 Nutritional products distributed in sufficient quantity, quality and in a timely manner to children under age 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quantity of food assistance distributed as % of planned, by type Target: 100% ➤ No. of children under 2 receiving food, by sex, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ No. of health facilities assisted, as % of planned Target: 100% 	Funding is available to ensure timely arrival of internationally procured nutrition products. Nutrition partners have adequate capacity and resources. Assistance is not hampered by insecurity.
Outcome 1.2 Improved food consumption over assistance period for targeted households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Food consumption score Target: >28 for 67% of targeted populations ➤ Coping strategy index Target: <5 ➤ Dietary diversity score: Target: >4 for 63% of targeted populations 	Total stakeholder commitment to address food insecurity continues. Capacity and security allows for the timely and regular collection of post-distribution monitoring data as planned.



¹ The logical framework will be finalized when the Board approves the WFP Strategic Results Framework (2014–2017).

ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK¹

Results	Performance Indicators	Assumptions
<p>Output 1.2.1</p> <p>Food and cash transfers distributed in sufficient quantity, quality and in a timely manner to targeted households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quantity of food assistance distributed, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ Cash transferred to beneficiaries, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ No. of beneficiaries receiving assistance, by sex and activity, as % of planned Target: 100% 	<p>Funding is available to ensure a healthy pipeline.</p> <p>Markets function in communities targeted for cash distributions.</p> <p>Assistance is not hampered by insecurity.</p>
<p>Strategic Objective 3 – Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs</p>		
<p>Outcome 3.1</p> <p>Improved access to livelihood assets has enhanced resilience and reduced risk of disaster and shocks of targeted food insecure communities and households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Food consumption score Target: >28 for 67% of targeted populations ➤ Daily average dietary diversity Target: >4 for 63% of targeted populations ➤ Coping strategy index Target: <5 ➤ % of household expenditures on food (baseline: 67.4%) Target: <67% ➤ Food stock duration (baseline: 3months) Target: 7 months ➤ Community asset score Target: 80% 	<p>Stakeholder commitment to address food insecurity continues.</p> <p>Funding is available to ensure a healthy pipeline.</p> <p>Markets function in communities targeted for cash distributions.</p>



ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK ¹		
Results	Performance Indicators	Assumptions
<p>Output 3.1.1 Cash and food distributed in sufficient quantity, quality and in a timely manner to targeted households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quantity of food assistance distributed, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ Cash transferred to beneficiaries, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ No. of beneficiaries receiving assistance, by sex and modality, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ No. of women participants in FFA activities, as % of planned Target: 100% 	<p>Assistance is not hampered by insecurity. Capacity and security allow for timely and regular collection of post-distribution monitoring data as planned.</p>
<p>Output 3.1.2 Assets that reduce risk of disasters and shocks, developed, built or restored</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No. of risk reduction and disaster mitigation assets built or restored, by category, type and unit of measure Target: to be determined yearly 	<p>Partners have adequate capacity and resources to provide complementary value-added support, as planned. Communities have the capacity, with support, to maintain, protect and enhance assets created.</p>
<p>Outcome 3.2 Increased marketing opportunities for agricultural products and commodities at regional and local levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Food purchased from local and regional suppliers, as % of food distributed by WFP in-country Target: to be developed ➤ Food purchased from aggregation systems in which smallholders are participating, as % of local and regional purchases Target: to be developed 	<p>Proper market functioning and seasonal price volatility allow for cost-effective local purchasing. Unions have proper legal and financial mechanisms to receive payments. WFP financial mechanism allows for timely payment to unions.</p>
<p>Output 3.2.1 Increased WFP food purchase from regional and local markets and smallholder farmers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quantity of food purchased locally through local and regional procurement ➤ Quantity of food purchased locally from pro-smallholder aggregation systems 	
<p>Outcome 3.3 Risk reduction capacity of people, communities and countries strengthened</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National capacity index 	<p>Stakeholder commitment to address food insecurity continues. Government and community participation in training is adequate.</p>



ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK ¹		
Results	Performance Indicators	Assumptions
<p>Output 3.3.1 Government and community-based disaster risk management and climate change adaptation supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ % of communities with community-based plans that include preparedness and prevention activities ➤ No. of technical assistance provisions, as % of planned <p>Target: 100%</p>	<p>Sufficient capacity and resources are available to WFP to ensure quality support.</p>
Strategic Objective 4 – Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger		
<p>Outcome 4.1 Reduce undernutrition among children under 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (baseline 14.8%) <p>Target: <12%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MAM recovery, default, mortality and non-response rates <p>Targets: recovery rate > 75% (baseline 87.1%); default rate <15% (baseline 4.9%); mortality rate <3% (baseline 0.1%); non-response rate <10% (baseline 1.3%)</p>	<p>Partners have adequate capacity and resources to implement parallel activities as planned.</p> <p>Adequate health centres are available for treatment of malnourished children.</p> <p>Government nutrition coordination mechanisms function effectively.</p> <p>No major epidemics occur.</p>
<p>Output 4.1.1 Special nutrition products distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted beneficiaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quantity of food assistance distributed as % of planned, disaggregated by type <p>Target: 100%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No. of beneficiaries receiving food, by sex, as % of planned <p>Target: 100%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No. of health facilities assisted, as % of planned <p>Target: 100%</p>	<p>Funding is available to ensure timely arrival of internationally procured nutrition products.</p> <p>Nutrition partners have adequate capacity and resources.</p> <p>Assistance is not hampered by insecurity.</p>
<p>Outcome 4.2 Increased equitable access to and utilization of education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Retention rate of girls and boys in assisted schools, as % of total school days ➤ Gender ratio (baseline 0.85) <p>Target: 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pass rate by sex (baseline – boys 59.18%; girls 50.45%) ➤ Drop-out rate by sex (baseline – boys 2.11%; girls 1.86%) 	<p>Partners have adequate capacity and resources to implement parallel education support activities.</p> <p>Government and partner commitment to universal school enrolment and improved quality of education is maintained.</p>



ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK¹

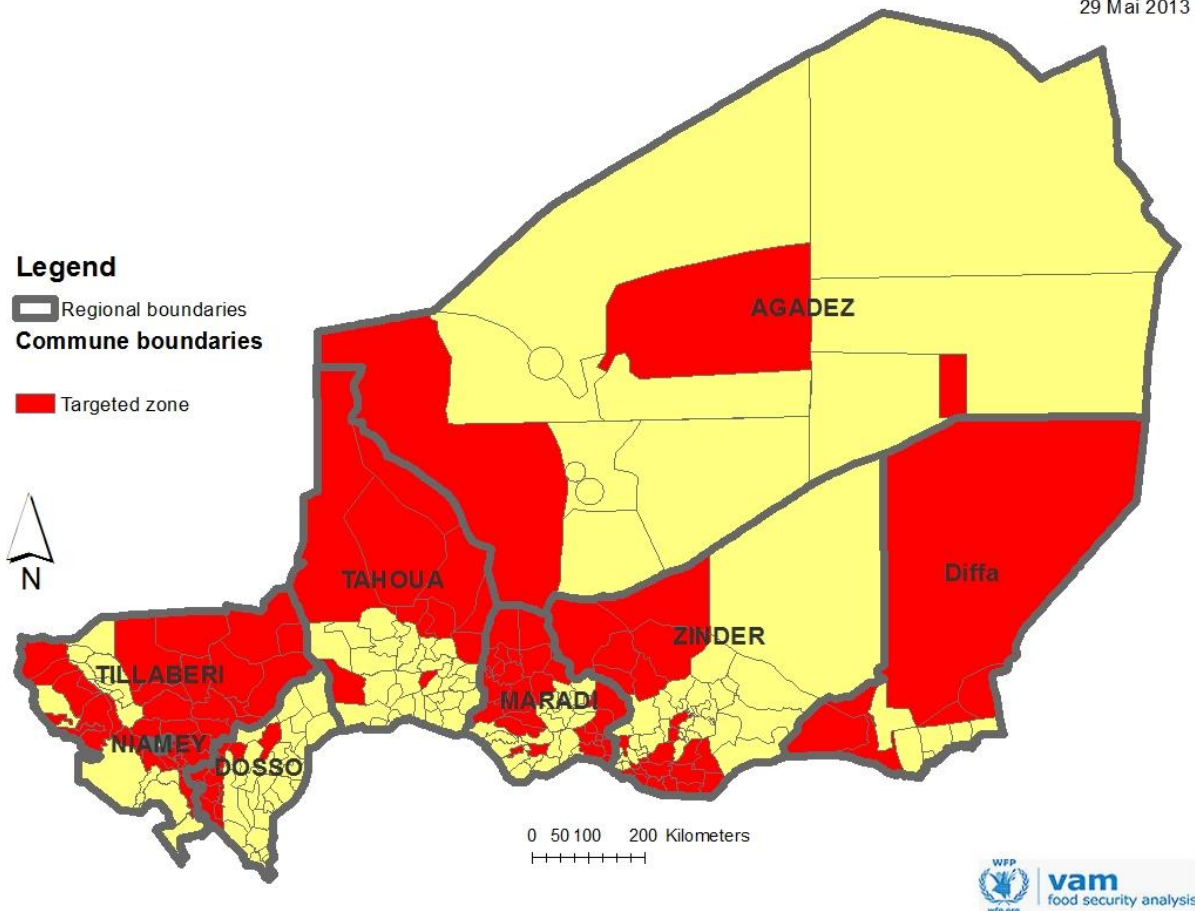
Results	Performance Indicators	Assumptions
<p>Output 4.2.1 Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quality and quantity to boys and girls in assisted schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quantity of food assistance distributed, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ No. of beneficiaries receiving assistance, by sex, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ No. of girls receiving take-home rations per year, as % of planned Target: 100% ➤ No. of schools assisted, as % of planned Target: 100% 	<p>Funding is available to ensure timely distribution of food. Adequate human and technical capacity is available among cooperating partners and counterparts for the preparation of cooked meals, distribution and monitoring of output and outcome indicators.</p>



ANNEX III

**Priority zones targeted through
WFP PRRO 2014–2016**

29 Mai 2013



* TSF treatment activities will continue to be implemented across the Niger

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or the area of its authority, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

ANNEX IV**NATURE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF FOOD SECURITY-RELATED ASSISTANCE TO DATE¹**

1. Systematic qualitative and quantitative monitoring during the 2011/12 crisis response found that pre-emptive FFA ahead of the lean season was critical in meeting food needs and enabling households to cope: it reduced migration of workers and reliance on negative coping strategies and enhanced community assets through land regeneration and water harvesting. An impact study by the International Food Policy Research Institute found that households assisted through such pre-emptive FFA, particularly cash transfer beneficiaries, had access to adequate food, and that markets were stimulated.
2. During the June–September peak of the lean season, WFP transitioned to a safety net based on food or cash, which protected the gains of FFA and supported improved food consumption. Discussions with communities and local committees suggest that the intervention supported improved crop production because workers stayed to cultivate the fields. And the assisted households were not obliged to sell part of their harvest immediately.
3. The 2011/12 food security response was linked to malnutrition prevention and treatment interventions. The effect of the harmonized response was positive: from June to August 2012 GAM among children aged 6–23 months receiving BSF rapidly fell from 21 percent to 14 percent; a slight increase to 16 percent was observed in October, when morbidity increased following the rains. Among non-beneficiaries, GAM remained high – 24 percent – in October. The effect on infant mortality was significant: it was observed at 0.34 among beneficiaries compared with 1.08 among non-beneficiaries by the end of the activity. Cohort analysis results are supported by the findings of the EPICentre and the WFP longitudinal study, which found that compared with the provision of cash alone, GAM and mortality rates are most reduced by including child-specific food supplements with household cash allowances.
4. WFP also maintained its food-for-education programme ahead of the lean season, which helped to minimize drop-out rates in assisted schools, increase primary school enrolment and support girls' access to education. From 2007 to 2012, the ratio of girls to boys in WFP-assisted schools increased from 0.75 to 0.85.
5. The distribution of cash has been effective in the Niger. Market monitoring suggests that in areas targeted with cash transfers, markets are integrated and competitive, with adequate food and the ability to respond to an increase in demand. Since 2010, sector capacity assessments have informed the choice of transfer modality. Cash transfers are observed to be cost-efficient: during the 2011/12 crisis, when food prices rose quickly, the national cereal alpha value analysis remained below 1. Monitoring shows that cash transfers are primarily used to purchase essential foods and secure household food stocks: they have a positive effect on food consumption, coping strategies and dietary diversity indicators and they contribute to womens' participation in decisions as to the use of the transfer.

¹ This annex expands on information provided in paragraph 31.

6. A review of the crisis response identified areas where the interventions of WFP and its partners could be reinforced: i) enhance outreach nutrition screening and referral systems; ii) improve FFA through technical support and agricultural inputs; and iii) adopt community-based plans and seasonal livelihood planning. Since 2012, WFP has worked with partners and counterparts to integrate lessons learned and maximize the impact of operations, including PRRO 200583.

ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

3N	<i>Nigériens nourrissent des Nigériens</i> (Nigeriens feeding Nigeriens)
BSF	blanket supplementary feeding
CC/SAP/PC	<i>Cellule de coordination du système d'alerte précoce et prévention des crises</i> (coordination unit of the early warning and crisis prevention system)
DNPGCCA	<i>Dispositif national de prévention et de gestion des catastrophes et des crises alimentaires</i> (National Mechanism for the Prevention and Management of Food Crises and Disasters)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFA	food for assets
GAM	global acute malnutrition
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
MAM	moderate acute malnutrition
NGO	non-governmental organization
PDES	<i>Plan de développement économique et sociale</i> (Economic and Social Development Plan)
PLW	pregnant and lactating women
PRRO	protracted relief and recovery operation
REACH	Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Undernutrition
SLP	seasonal livelihood planning
TFA	targeted food assistance
TSF	targeted supplementary feeding
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund