

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING IN NIGER



STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE BY INVESTING IN SYSTEMS

In Niger, the World Food Programme (WFP) is building the capacity of systems and people to support nationally-owned hunger solutions. WFP works to improve the policy environment for achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 – to end hunger – by encouraging policy and normative support for food security, resilience-building, social protection and nutrition interventions.

WFP'S CAPACITY STRENGTHENING APPROACH IN NIGER

WFP Niger's overall vision is to support national capacity to achieve the Zero Hunger Goal. This involves supporting Zero Hunger governance and response capacities.

To support response capacity, WFP offers a nationally-tailored technical assistance and capacity strengthening package in key areas that build on its comparative advantage, including risk management and early warning, food security analysis, resilience programming, smallholder market support, productive and social safety net

programming, emergency preparedness and response, logistics and value chain management.

To support governance capacity, WFP efforts are organized by five objectives: effective anti-hunger policies and legislation; effective, accountable anti-hunger institutions; strategic anti-hunger planning and financing; anti-hunger programme design and delivery; and sustained national capacity to manage, reduce and eliminate hunger, with civil society participation.



“With our community committee, we decide how to reinvest the money we are earning from the land to benefit the community and especially the extremely poor households during the lean season. For example, we created a cereal bank with a portion of the profit we earned so that families would always have access to food, particularly in times of crisis. This has empowered us and guarantees community ownership of support.”

-Fati Mussa, active member of the community committee in Satara, Niger



STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITY IS AT THE CORE OF THE 2030 AGENDA

Achieving SDG2 means that states must be able to draft and implement policies that promote food security and nutrition objectives. These underpin nations' capacities to withstand shocks and stresses that limit the availability of food or constrain access to it. To be relevant and effective, food security and nutrition policies must be rooted in strong governance, responsive institutions and an enabling environment.



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HOW DOES WFP WORK IN NIGER?

WFP adopts a three pillar approach to capacity strengthening that involves enhancing institutional, community and individual capabilities. At the institutional level, WFP works with central and decentralized government institutions to create a favourable policy environment and strengthen its response capacity so that it is better equipped to meet the Zero Hunger Challenge. At the community level, WFP works with the poor through participatory analysis and planning to

build technical, operational and organizational capacities that facilitate equitable development while building individual ownership and leadership of response activities. Women's participation is prioritized in all capacity strengthening efforts.

In all efforts, WFP works jointly within the United Nations system and with other development partners to ensure efficiency, effectiveness, synergy and complementarity.



HOW DOES WFP DEFINE CAPACITY STRENGTHENING?

Technical assistance and capacity strengthening at WFP are about realizing that now more than ever, the world needs the tools and resources, at local, national and international levels, to respond to crises and end hunger. WFP fights hunger by directly providing food and food-related interventions when national capacities are missing or inadequate, and facilitating self-sufficient national capacity for sustainable hunger solutions.

Capacity strengthening is a complex and multi-dimensional process of unlocking the enabling environment and strengthening institutional and individual capacities to sustainably end hunger. Determining the right combination of strategies,

tactics, resources and social and national narratives will improve the wellbeing of a population. The process relies on people, organizations and societies working together to unleash, strengthen, create, adapt and maintain capacity to respond to and manage emergencies over time and establish sustainable hunger solutions.

Capacity strengthening is adaptive to the national context and may include direct technical transfers, the expansion of successful anti-hunger results, and experiential learning from South-South cooperation and the Centre of Excellence Against Hunger. As such, the capacity strengthening approach employs complex adaptive systems that fit into specific country contexts.

KEY RESULTS

- WFP has supported the overall resilience and social protection policy and planning process, as well as the various intervention areas (nutrition, education and local purchase).
- WFP has invested in strengthening national emergency preparedness and response capacity by developing information management capabilities, supporting the reform of the early warning system, targeting the poorest and most vulnerable, developing multi-risk contingency plans and lean season planning and providing technical and financial support to the agricultural market information management system.
- WFP has also supported the Government of Niger to implement the three-pronged approach on participatory planning. At the institutional level, WFP is working with central government counterparts to support integrated context analysis, and with regional and municipal counterparts to plan seasonal livelihood programmes. At the community level, WFP is conducting participatory planning that integrates the needs and requirements of the poorest, particularly women, into programme design. At the individual level, technical assistance and behaviour change communication are giving beneficiaries the tools they need to better cope with shocks.

WFP FRAMEWORK FOR CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

