

# Progress in Niger country in 2021

Data as of: 5 May 2024

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_2.1

Women smallholder productivity in changing climate increased and physical burden of agricultural work reduced in rural areas in Niger

Women are more vulnerable to climate change impacts than men, as they are more dependent on the natural resources which climate change threatens the most. At the same time, rural women are effective change-makers for climate adaptation and resilient. In Niger, key results have been achieved, including: -Increase in rainfed crop production, which varies by speculation between +14% and +53% for women, leading to improved food security and decrease in population displacement internally and internationally. -Increase in the average rate of animal production of 216%, which has helped mitigate the consequences of the decline in crop production in deficit years. - Increase of expansion of income sources that helped rural women to cope with the impact of COVID-19 in 2020. The global income generated by the rural Nigerien women thanks to the sale of their production to supply the school canteens increased from US\$ 83,090.65 in 2016 to US\$ 682,171.83 in 2021; the savings mobilized within the village committees (CVIM) and communal migration observatories increased from 0 to 62,931,000 XOF (US\$ 126,000); the monetary value of the cereal stock mobilized by the women beneficiaries is estimated at 44,170,000 XOF (US\$ 76,155). - Increased access to land for of rural Nigerien women to land. 717 rural women exploited 324,897 hectares of land acquired by loan and 502 individual and collective compost pits were set-up based on organic manure and household waste, which contributed to improve the food security of the beneficiary households and mitigate the risks of irregular migration. Rural women in Niger spend most of their time on household chores such as preparing meals for the family and caring for children. In order to reduce the burden of household chores on rural women, UN Women, through the JP RWEE program, provided rural women with multi-functional platforms and carts to make their life easier. This equipment significantly reduced not only the drudgery of certain household chores but also saved time for income-generating activities. A study conducted by UN Women in 2020 showed that 47 % of women who benefited from the task-relief and income-generation component managed to save more than four hours per day, 33 % between two and four hours and 15 % two hours per day. Furthermore, the carts proved to be highly essential in transporting pregnant women to health centers for childbirth, thus reducing the maternal mortality rate and facilitating the registration of children on the birth register for the issue of birth certificates.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_3.1

Normative and policy frameworks are promoted and adapted in line with international standards and institutions have the commitment, knwoledge and capacities to legislate, plan, implement, and monitor policies to adress VAWG, GBV and HP

The Nigerien legal framework has been strengthened with the availability of a draft of the legal framework study report integrating the inputs of the first level of quality control by the different actors of the United Nations system intervening on the Spotlight program and the members of the study monitoring committee made up of sectoral ministries and civil society, subject to the national workshop for the validation of the report by all the national stakeholders being organized, which has enabled the country to have a new draft law on gender-based violence that will help protect women and girls from all forms of violence. The drafting process led by the Ministry of Justice with the support of a consultant was participatory and involved the

different key sectoral ministries of Women's Promotion, Education, Health. Furthermore, Niger has a pool of 29 trainers among which 21 men and 8 women, who oversee legislation in key sectoral ministries and who are trained on the techniques of drafting laws and texts related to GBV in order to strengthen the legal framework on VAWG/GBV/HP. The 5th periodic report of the CEDAW through a participatory process of all stakeholders. Subject to validation by the Council of Ministers before transmission to the CEDAW Committee, participants in the technical validation workshop for the report made several relevant recommendations that could help the country consider lifting some of the reservations made by Niger that are considered obsolete by the stakeholders. Furthermore, the institutionalization of GRB is launch in Niger with the establishment of a pool of a national and regional focal point in charge of planning from various ministries, and the development of a strategy and guides for the practice of GRB to translate the political engagement into actions. Niger has also developed a standard operating procedure document (SOPs) for multifunctional GBV management centers (CRMVBG). This document is an important tool for the State of Niger to scale up GBV multi-functional centers in Niger. Technical and financial partners and stakeholders involved in GBV (civil society organizations (CSOs), the coordination of the SPOTLIGHT program, UNOMWOMEN, UNICEF, the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Defense and Health) all took part in the mission, which allowed to achieve the following important results: - The prevention and management services for GBV victims were technically and practically organized by all the stakeholders involved in the implementation of the program (the police, the gendarmerie, the justice system, the health system, the promotion of women and child protection, the social workers, the technical and financial partners, the NGOs involved in the implementation of the program and the CSOs' reference framework); - The regional multifunctional GBV centers in Maradi and Tahoua now have SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) for the prevention and management of GBV victims. - The roadmap for the operationalization of the Maradi and Tahoua GBV CRMs has been drawn up to ensure their proper implementation. Working with CSOs and grass roots organizations also contribute significantly in the strengthen to enable an environment where women and girls are free from violence. Therefore, the networking of civil society structures with 224 structures among which 152 women's lead organizations mapped and strengthened and the establishment of 500 Dimitra Clubs at village level, 20 multifactor platforms and 3600 community relays among which 1386 women's and 1386 young people has contribute to note some progress of strong community engagement to strengthen the legal framework even though the national context has faced several challenges among which the electoral, the security and COVID-19 context that affected programme implementation. For instance, the electoral transition, the arrival of a new governmental team and the ongoing institutional restructuring, has partially affected the implementation of pillars 1, 2 and 5 of the Spotlight programme which are particularly plane to enable the, as indicated in the mid-term evaluation. The key studies planned during phase 1, for example, on the legal framework on GBV in Niger, were delayed and, as a result, the advocacy and policy dialogue work based on their results was postponed to the second phase of the program. The Spotlight Initiative in its second phase opted to reinforce the legal and institutional framework to foster a more equitable environment. Based on the results obtained during phase 1, this pillar will work on critical and essential areas with the objective of creating an environment favorable to a sustainable change in the EVAWG area

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_3.2

### Increased access to essential services

Strengthening the operational capacities of the Multimedia Centers in the regions of Dosso, Maradi and Zinder: This involves adding operating supplies to the multimedia centers in Zinder, Maradi and Dosso so that the young people who use these centers can take full advantage of them to popularize the message they learned through their training on sexual and reproductive health and access to adequate care services. In order, 45 young adolescent girls and boys from the program implementation regions of Dosso, Maradi and Zinder participated in a training on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) with the presence of: The main objective of this activity was to train MHM ambassadors so that they in turn could instruct other

youth in GHM in their respective regions This has begun to bear fruit, because in the Maradi region the 10 trained opinion leaders have in turn-initiated training in their region with the result that 160 facilitators have been trained; 16 community supervisors have received the message from our ambassadors trained in Niamey; it should be noted that each of the 160 trained facilitators has a hearing of 120 participants in his or her community. About ten civil society actors in the field of MHM met during the celebration of the world day of MHM with the 45 young people trained in GHM and about fifty guests among which the executives of the ministries of women promotion and child protection and the ministry of hydraulics: The objective of this celebration is to break the silence and taboos' around menstrual hygiene, to explain the importance of taking it into account in the life cycle of the young girl who becomes an adolescent and to appeal to national and international opinion on the importance of accompanying the young girl and boy in this process of reaching the adolescent age which marks the beginnings of adult life. A capitalization workshop was held during the second quarter of 2021 and brought together all the program's stakeholders over the past 10 years. The results of the activities show that the MUSKOKA Program, through UNWOMEN Niger, has improved the living conditions of more than 2,000,000 people through advocacy activities, sensitization through radio broadcasts on community radios and the establishment of multi-actor platforms.

### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_4.1

# Outcome 5: Women participate in and inform decision-making processes & responses related to conflict prevention, protection and peacebuilding in Niger

Significant achievements have been registered in the accomplishment of this result: Six hundred women (youth and adults) are working for social cohesion between farmers and herders in the regions of Dosso, Tillaberi and Maradi through capacity building on topics such as conflict prevention and management, mediation and the culture of peace, these women are now actively involved in conflict prevention and management mechanisms and have increased the participation rate of women by 30%. These women conduct mediation between farmers and herders, mediate between families and communities, and conduct awareness sessions for social cohesion and peace building between communities. Although the project came to end, the activities of these women mediators continue in these two regions. This project was implemented with the technical and financial support of the Peace Building Fund. In addition to that, the same experience was replicated in five communes in the Tillaberi region, again with technical and financial support from PBF whereby two hundred and fifty women have received the same training and are actively involved in peacebuilding in their communities. Furthermore, through their leadership, these women who have been able to militate for the respect and promotion of women's and girls' rights their protection from gender-based violence in case of GANE attacks and their contribution to local governance. Drawing on lessons learned and gaps in the work of women mediators in the Tillaberi region, women mediators in the Tillaberi region are benefiting from official recognition, income-generating activities, and increased participation in local governance. Also, there are now three trainers of trainers on mediation through the technical and financial support of UN WOMEN.

### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_4.2

# Humanitarian /crisis response planning, frameworks & programming are gender inclusive and responsive

In 2021, UN Women chaired the Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GHAWG) whose members are the focal points for all humanitarian clusters under the Humanitarian Country Team leadership in collaboration of government technicians, UN agencies and NGOs. As part of humanitarian planning, UN Women has built the capacity of all members of the HWG and cluster coordination teams to ensure that gender is considered at all stages of humanitarian planning, response, and evaluation. UN Women trained

humanitarian response plan projects review teams on the Gender and Age Marker to ensure that gender is really mainstreamed in their projects. These efforts have significantly improved the quality of the HNO/HRP in terms of gender mainstreaming. UN-WOMEN also conducted a gender study in Niamey to inform the HNO/HRP and contribute to the UN Common Country Analysis in Niger.

### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_4.4

### An enabling environment for implementation of WPS commitments is created in Niger

On September 2020, Niger adopted a second-generation Resolution 1325 National Action Plan thanks to the technical and financial support of UN WOMEN through a process that evaluated the first NAP and adopted a new one. The following revision makes it possible to take into considerations the new resolutions of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda adopted since 2017; to integrate the objectives of the new National Gender Policy adopted in August 2017; as well as to take into account the international mechanism dedicated to this theme which has also evolved. In 2021, UN-WOMEN has defined with the Ministry of Women's Promotion and Protection an operationalization plan with priority activities to be carried out. Thus, the activities are divided as follows: The primary activity consisted of supporting the Ministry of Women's Promotion and Child Protection in setting up the NAP Secretariat. To this end, UN Women supported the drafting of decrees on the creation, attribution, composition and functioning of the Secretariat and its steering committee, as well as the drafting of job descriptions for their members. This led to their appointment by decree N° 000025/MPF/PE/SG/DPF/G/DL of October 26, 2021. These members benefited from capacity building on their roles in the implementation of the NAP through a retreat from July 23 to 30, 2021 in Dosso. At the same time, the financial and operational planning of the priority actions of the NAP was developed for each region of the country and at the national level. The total budget is about 33 million USD for a period of 5 years. At the end of December 2021, the Secretariat was equipped with 4 computers, 1 photocopier, 1 video projector, 1 meeting table for 12 people, 5 electronic extension cords, 6 wooden cabinets, 4 desks, 4 chairs and computer consumables necessary for its operation for at least one year. 1400 copies of the NAP and 900 copies of the financial and operational planning have been printed and will be distributed to all stakeholders. Furthermore, a national mapping of the needs and actors involved in the implementation of the WPS agenda is underway since December 2021. This mapping, carried out by a firm, will allow the establishment of a dynamic and updated database by the members of the Secretariat. An international workshop took place to share experiences on the implementation of the NAPs which took place on December 2021, under the patronage of the Minister for the Promotion of Women. Still in this dynamic of operationalization of the National Permanent Secretariat, an international workshop of experience sharing and good practices, on the implementation of the national action plan of resolution 1325. The main objective is to strengthen the capacities of the members of the National Permanent Secretariat of the National Action Plan and their regional branches through the sharing of experiences and best practices of actors who have implemented the NAP of the Women's Agenda for Peace and Security. The workshop brought together participants from Mali, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon and Burkina Faso as well as participants from the eight regions of Niger. For one week, participants shared their experiences and good practices, which allowed them to mutually reinforce their capacity on the implementation of national action plans and to close with a joint declaration to decision-makers for a mobilization to take into account the gender needs of women and girls in key sectors.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_1.1

Women's leadership and political participation is promoted during the electoral cycle 2020 - 2021 in Niger

As part of the implementation of its strategic note 2018–2022, UN Women supported the Government to implement the new law on quotas. Niger has taken an important step by demonstrating that women have a real place in politics with the increase in the rate of representation of women in the National Assembly but also in general with an appreciable participation of women in the communes. Indeed, from 29 women in the previous legislature, there are now 50 women, or 30.1%. In the communes, there are 1,212 women councilors, or 27.1%. However, there is still work to be done, as only 13 of the 266 mayors are women and 5 of the 44 ministers are women. These results are partly due to UN Women's support to national partners (CENI, MPFPE, ONPG, women leaders, media).

### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_2.2

#### Economic migration is safe and regular for migrant women and girls

UN Women's intervention is the field of migration is three-fold: normative work, capacity building delivery and knowledge products development. 1) UN Women reviewed and provided substantive contributions to strengthen the inclusion of gender equality considerations in a variety of policymaking and technical processes in relation to migration, such as the development of the 2nd National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, revision of Law No. 2015–36 on the Illicit Smuggling of Migrants, the Communication Plan of the National Migration Policy (NMP) and the Coordination Strategy of the Nigerien Consultation Framework on Migration. 2) UN Women provided the 30 newly elected women members of parliament (MPs) with knowledge and skills on advancing the rights protections of women migrant domestic workers, including a presentation on ILO Convention No. 189 on Domestic Workers and its importance in the context of national legislation. It also increased the understanding of 25 CSOs on the links between gender equality and migration, and migrant women's rights. Moreover, UN Women built the capacity of more than 2,125 migrant women and girls and 160 government and non-government stakeholders on the promotion and protection of migrant women and girls. 3) UN Women developed and disseminated four knowledge products on the situations of situations of women migrating from, into and through Niger, highlighting the challenges that women may face at various stages of migration. 4) UN Women provided 1,325 women and girls with economic kits, including cattle fattening, sewing, weaving, and leather goods, to help them start income-generating activities, to improve access to economic opportunities for potential migrant women 5) To improve access to economic opportunities for potential migrant women, UN Women provided 1,325 women and girls with economic kits, including cattle fattening, sewing, weaving, and leather goods, to help them start income-generating activities.

### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-NER\_D\_5.1

# Young and adolescent girls have access to an enabling environment and quality education in Niger

This outcome has not been achieved for the year 2021. The electoral process followed by the installation of the new government has caused an unavailability of state actors and a change in the first actors involved in the collaboration process. However, a collaboration for the technical assistance of UN Women in the government has been signed between UN Women, the Italian Embassy and the Nigerian government to improve the access of young girls and adolescents to an enabling environment and quality education in Niger. UN Women is accompanying the Government of Niger to finalize the signing and implementation of a major 3-year education programme to accelerate the education of young people in the Maradi region.