



REPUBLIC OF NIGER  
*Fraternity - Labor - Progress*  
CABINET OF THE PRIME MINISTER

*Strategy For Development And Security In Sahel-Saharan Areas Of Niger*

***SDS Sahel Niger***



[www.sds-sahelniger.net](http://www.sds-sahelniger.net)

**STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT  
AND SECURITY IN SAHEL-SAHARAN  
AREAS OF NIGER**

*(Translated from French by Cabinet de Traduction Babel)*

**October 2011**



## Foreword

*Strategy for Development and Security in the Sahel-Saharan régions of Niger* is a practical expression of the political orientations of the Président of the Republic in his effort to permanently stabilize the security situation in our country. The issues addressed by the strategy as well as the multi-varied and relevant responses developed to conform to Régional Stratégies developed by the states of the Sahel under the aegis of the European Union to face the threat of organized crime (trafficking) and terrorism in ail its forms.

This Strategy is not substitute to other national stratégies. Its ambition is merely to respond to internai and external security challenges that hinder development efforts and socio-economic growth of Sahel-Saharan countries. Its real challenge is to comprehend the spécifique issue of security in our country as a fundamental and complex issue, requiring sustained attention and solid commitment from ail in order to devise adéquate and perennial solutions.

The main feature of this Strategy, which dedicates an innovative approach to the security problem in our country, is the firm link established between security and development. The articulation between thèse two éléments is closely apprehended in this Strategy. It is indeed assumed that a one sided response to this issue favoring exclusively "security factors" is not necessarily the appropriate and unique response to multiple threats and insecurity. The socio-economic development of régions, in particular the création of road infrastructures, schools, health facilities, pastoral hydraulic works, income-generating activities, etc., is the royal path to fighting criminal organizations and actors of organized crime attempts to exploit the misery of the youth. In short, the retained option is to bring back security and stabilize the régions through development activities.

In this perspective, the stratégie objective of this approach is to show the présence of the State in a significant manner in thèse areas in order to demonstrate to the people the support of the authorities. The Government hopes that it will achieve this fundamental objective by addressing the following issues:

- “ Strengthening the security of persons and property
- “ Facilitating people's access to économie opportunities
- “ Allowing people's access to basic social services
- “ Strengthening local governance

“ Ensuring the Social and économique intégration of forced returnees from Libya, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Algeria

The financing mechanism of this strategy is conceived in the perspective of the national and decentralized budget process. However, the establishment of an independent financing mechanism as a "common basket" which will take into account all available sources of financing and be run by a single management plan for reporting and control is accepted. The financing System is intended to fund the annual work plans (AWP) as part of the implementation of this strategy.

To meet the implementation's expenses, the exclusive plan for financing centralizes: the state contributions, financial contributions from development partners in Niger, financial resources collected for co-financing with sector-based partner strategies (PDDE / PSEF<sup>1</sup>, PDS, CSD, etc.), financial contributions from local governments and resources from decentralized coopération.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	1
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS.....	6
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	8
Chapter1.....	22
GENERAL CONTEXT OF NIGER.....	22
1.1. Geography: a landlocked and austère environment.....	22
1.2. Population: a constraining demography .....	23
1.3. Economy: between instability and hope.....	24
1.4. Socio-economic context: food vulnerability and chronic poverty .....	25
1.5. Administrative, political and institutional context: consolidation and restoration of values .....	6
Chapter2 .....	28
DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY ISSUES IN SAHEL-SAHARAN AREAS OF NIGER.....	28
2.1. Brief outline of the targeted areas .....	28
2.2. Considering the issues: stakes, challenges and constraints .....	29
2.2.1. An issue of agro - climatic and ecological contingencies .....	29
2.2.2. A situation of complex insecurity with major challenges .....	30
Conclusion.....	36
Chapter3 .....	38
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK.....	38
3.1. Objectives of the Strategy .....	38
3.1.1. Général Objective .....	38

3.1.2. Spécific objectives .....	38
3.2. Major axes .....	38
3.2.1. Stratégie axis 1 : Strengthening the security of people and property .....	39
3.2.2. Stratégie axis 2: Establishment and strengthening of people's access to économie opportunities .....	44
3.2.3. Stratégie axis 3: Improving peoples' access to basic social services .....	48
3.2.4. Stratégie axis 4: Strengthening governance in communities and at local a uthorities' level.....	50
3.2.5. Stratégie axis 5: The socio-economic intégration of forced returnees...	53
3.3. Risks .....	55
3.3.1. Nature of the risks .....	55
3.3.2. Analysis and management of risks .....	55
3.3.3. Key hypothèses .....	56
<b>Chapter4 .....</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>IMPLEMENTATION.....</b>	<b>57</b>
4.1. Principles of implementation .....	57
4.2. Institutional anchorage of thestrategy .....	57
4.3. Steering mechanism of the strategy.....	58
4.4. Coordinating mechanism for the implementation of the strategy .....	59
4.5. Funding mechanism of the strategy .....	60
4.5.1. Nature of the mechanism .....	60
4.5.2. Functioning of the mechanism .....	61
4.6. Framework for monitoring and évaluation.....	61
4.6.1. Rôle and objectives of monitoring and evaluating the strategy.....	61

4.6.2. Nature of information for monitoring and évaluation .....	62
4.6.3. A few considérations relevant to the implementation of the monitoring and évaluation System .....	63
Chapter5 .....	66
BUDGET .....	66
5.1. Cost for implementing the strategy .....	66
DETAILED BUDGET .....	67
ORGANIZATIONALCHART .....	71
GENERAL CONCLUSION .....	72
REFERENCES .....	74

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>3N:</b>	Les Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens (Initiative) / Nigériens Feed Nigériens (Initiative)
<b>AEP:</b>	Adduction d'Eau Potable/ Drinking Water Canalization
<b>AHA:</b>	Aménagements Hydro-Agricoles / Hydro-Agricultural Planning
<b>ANFICT:</b>	Agence Nigérienne pour le Financement des Investissements dans les Collectivités Territoriales / Nigérien Agency for the Financing of Investments in local authorities
<b>AQMI:</b>	Al-Qaeda au Maghreb Islamique / Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb
<b>BAC:</b>	Brigade Anti - Criminelle / Anti - Criminal Brigade
<b>BC:</b>	Banque Céréalière / Cereal Bank
<b>BMCF:</b>	Brigades Mobiles de Contrôle des Frontières / Mobile Brigades for Border Control
<b>BRI:</b>	Brigades de Recherche et d'Investigation / Brigades for Research and Investigation
<b>CCC:</b>	Communication pour un Changement de Comportement / Communication for Behavioral Change
<b>CMCF:</b>	Compagnie Mobile de Contrôle des Frontières / Mobile Company for Border Control
<b>CMP:</b>	Comité Multi - Sectoriel de Pilotage / Multi - Sector Steering Committee
<b>CNS:</b>	Compagnie Nationale de Sécurité / National Security Company
<b>DGPN:</b>	Direction Générale de la Police Nationale / Général Direction for the National Police
<b>DPG:</b>	Déclaration de Politique Générale / Statement of Général Policy
<b>ENBC:</b>	l'Enquête Nationale sur le Budget Consommation / National Survey on Expenditure Budget
<b>FAO:</b>	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation / World Food Program
<b>GPS:</b>	Global Positioning System
<b>HACP :</b>	Haute Autorité pour la Consolidation de la Paix / High Authority for Peace Consolidation
<b>HCRP:</b>	Haut-commissariat à la Restauration de la Paix / High-Commission for Peace Restoration
<b>INS:</b>	Institut National de la Statistique / National Institute of Statistics
<b>MISP:</b>	Ministère de l'Intérieur et de la Sécurité Publique / Ministry of Interior and Public Security
<b>OCB:</b>	Organisation Communautaire de Base / Community Based Organization
<b>OMD:</b>	Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement / Millennium Development Goals
<b>ONG:</b>	Organisation Non - Gouvernemental / Non - Governmental Organization
<b>PDC:</b>	Plans de Développement Communal / Municipal Development Plans
<b>PDDE:</b>	Plan Décennal pour le Développement de l'Education / Ten-Year Plan for Educational Development
<b>PDS:</b>	Plan de Développement Sanitaire / Health Development Plan
<b>PME:</b>	Petite et Moyenne Entreprise / Small and Médium Enterprise

<b>PSEF:</b>	Programme Sectoriel de l'Education et de la Formation / Sector-based Program for Education and Training
<b>PTA:</b>	Plan de Travail Annuel / Annual Work Plan
<b>QUIBB:</b>	Questionnaire Unifié des Indicateurs de Base du Bien-être / Combined Questionnaire of Basic Indicators of Well-Being
<b>RTA:</b>	Route Tahoua - Arlit (village situé à quelques km d'Arilit) / Road from Tahoua to Arlit (village located a few kms from Arlit)
<b>SDR:</b>	Stratégie de Développement Rural/Rural Development Strategy
<b>SDRP:</b>	Stratégie de Développement accéléré et de Réduction de la Pauvreté / Accelerated Development and Poverty Réduction Strategy
<b>SDS Sahel-Niger :</b>	Executive Secrétariat for the Strategy for Développement and Security in Sahel-Saharan Areas of Niger
<b>TIC:</b>	Technologie de l'Information et de la Communication/ Information and Communication Technology
<b>TV:</b>	Télévision / Télévision
<b>UEMOA:</b>	Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine / West African Economie and Monetary Union (WAEMU)



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of Niger's initiative to implement a strategy for security and development in the Sahel - Saharan areas, is a practical expression of the Président of the Republic stated in his **Renaissance** Program and operated by the **Prime Minister's Statement of Général Policy**. It is an intégral part of the Economie and Social Development Plan (**PDES 2012-2015**) and the Strategy for Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth (**SDDCI Niger 2035**). This strategy's main purpose is essentially focused on giving a new and stronger dynamic to the socio économie and cultural development in the Saharan and Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. Thèse areas are facing a spécifique development issue mostly influenced by the deleterious conditions of security that prevail there. It should also be noted that the areas affected by this strategy consist of désert and semi - désert areas. Priority is given to six (6) of the eight (8) régions of Niger: Tillabéry, Tahoua, Agadez, Maradi, Zinder and Diffa in the North - East of Niger. However, it should be noted that the security issue is, in général, a major challenge to the socio - économie development of the entire country and will involve the whole country.

The Executive Secrétariat for the Strategy for Développement and Security in Sahel-Saharan Areas of Niger (SDS Sahel-Niger) was designed using deep, realistic and participatory analysis of the spécifique issue related to the conditions of security and development of Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. Also, given the challenges and key issues at stakes at every level (local, national and international), this initiative of the Government of Niger is intended to be integrated in a larger contribution to the development of a régional synergy and the convergence of efforts targeting the safety and well - being of individuals and collective populations who live in all countries of the Sahel - Saharan strip.

### I. Areas concernée! by the Strategy

The areas covered by SDS Sahel-Niger are located mainly in parts of the Saharan and Sahel - Saharan areas. Thèse are mainly pastoral areas lying in the North-East of Niger: North Tillabéry; North Tahoua, North Maradi, North Zinder, including the régions of Agadez and Diffa. However, given the scope of problems that arise and their interrelations, this strategy will cover the whole country taking into account régional différences.

Sahel - Saharan areas are true réservoirs of mining and minerais resources, but also a vital space for livestock development, the second source of national income after agriculture. However, they face an acute context of endémie poverty, an austère physical and ecological environment, a high vulnerability to climate hazards, chronic food insecurity, an almost totally unemployed youth situation, and a declining climate of security. This situation is further aggravated for several months by the massive return in harsh conditions of thousands of Nigériens and other nationals from neighboring and sub-region countries: Libya, Nigeria, Mali, Algeria and Côte d'Ivoire.

Given all these contingencies of natural and human origin, this strategy appears to be an even stronger expression of the political will of the Government of Niger to provide adequate solutions to the multi-dimensional problem of socio - économie and cultural development of these specific areas and to improve the conditions and well - being of people living there.

## **II. Stratégie Framework**

### **a. Objectives of SDS Sahel-NIGER**

The overall objective of **SDS Sahel-Niger** is to contribute to the économie and social development of Niger in général and the Saharan and sahel-saharan areas in particular, by creating sustainable peace, security and development conditions. More specifically, the strategy aims to:

### **b. Focus of SDS Sahel-Niger**

To ensure consistency with the diagnosis and meet this specific objective, the following five (5) axes will be taken into consideration:

- i.) Enhancing the security of goods and people;
- ii.) Ensuring people's access to économie opportunities;
- iii.) Improving people's access to basic social services;
- iv.) Strengthening local and communal governance;
- v.) Integrating forced returnees from Libya, Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Algeria.

The programmatic content of these areas of intervention is presented as follows:

#### **i. Security of goods and people**

This area of intervention is oriented towards the management of security issues at the country's borders as well as in urban and rural areas. Actions to be implemented include:

1) **The improvement of security at borders through:** i) the strengthening of infrastructures of the border police, ii) building the logistics and operational capacities of the National Police, iii) strengthening the operational capacities of border units of the National Armed Forces (FAN) and Gendarmerie. More specifically, these initiatives will be implemented through the following major initiatives: création of mobile borders brigades, création of border crossings control posts, strengthening interstate periodic joint patrols; building logistics capacities (vehicles, communication and signals equipment, high-tech monitoring equipment), recruitment and staff training, création of a database of information; revitalization of the National Commission of borders, strengthening of the international judicial coopération, strengthening of international police coopération, building operational capacities of counter - terrorism and fight against crime units and services.

**2) Strengthening the operational capacity of security forces and the judicial center: this dimension in the strategy is articulated around the following points:**

- i) Strengthening the infrastructure of the National Police and National Guard, building the operational capacities of the police, the National Guard, général information and signais services, Emergency Police and Firefighters;
- ii) Capacity building of the agency in charge of légal and judicial assistance;
- iii) Capacity building of judicial services in the fight against illicit trafficking, organized crime and terrorism;
- iv) Capacity building of the judiciary;
- v) Assistance to victims (civilians and FDS) and former combatants of the armed rébellion movements. The aim hère is to implement the following main actions and ensure their functioning through: the création of new police stations, the création of police stations of proximity, the création of security companies; capacity building of police units and National Guard, recruitment and staff training; equipment in hardware spécifique to the maintenance of order, anti - terrorism and civil protection, création of the National Guard unit (Platoon, Squadron, Units, Companies); building operational capacities of the Général intelligence services and signais, speeding up the functioning of the laboratory of technical and scientific police, equipping of ail units and services in computer hardware, acquiring spécifique equipment for the civil défense services, building capabilities of the agency in charge of légal and judicial assistance and reinforce the judiciary System's capacities.

**ii. Improving people's access to économie opportunities**

**1) Reinforcement of the production and marketing capacities of livestock products through the following:**

- i) Increase and diversification of animal production,
- ii) Capacity building of farmers and farm workers,
- iii) Improvement of animal health and nutrition,
- iv) Création and equipment of pastoral infrastructure,
- v) Identification and safeguarding of animal husbandry areas,
- vi) Restoration and seeding of herd corridors,
- vii) Development of water Systems in grazing areas.

**2) The growth, diversification and improvement of agricultural production through the following actions:**

- i) Implementation and rehabilitation of rural development infrastructures - particularly in the Ihrazer plain (Agadez), in oases and along the Komadougou (Diffa),
- ii) Construction of structures for collecting and storing water,
- iii) Promotion and development of small irrigation,
- iv) Promotion of modern private farms in favor of youth and women,

- v) Improved access to inputs,
- vi) Value of agricultural products and promoting promising sectors,
- vii) Development of date farming
- viii) Strengthening technical capacity at all levels of the production chain,
- ix) Promotion of access to irrigation inputs by women,
- x) Protection of agricultural sites.

**3) The préservation and sustainable management of natural resources.** This strategy involves:

- i) Restoration and protection of productive bases,
- ii) Conservation of biodiversity and enrichment of wildlife,
- iii) Improvement of forest products and fish bee,
- iv) Safeguarding and managing in a sustainable way the agro-sylvo-pastoral resources, water bodies and developed areas, v) Improving environmental governance vi) Spreading the use of butane gas in rural and nomadic households.

**4) The development and promotion of tourism and handicraft** through initiatives focused on:

- i) Developing, expanding and promoting the national tourism,
- ii) Giving support to the achievement and rehabilitation of hôtel and tourist facilities, iii) Developing, enhancing and exploiting new tourist sites and forest concessions,
- iv) Improving technical performances of stakeholders in tourism and handicraft,
- v) Building, equipping and promoting handicraft centers and villages and training of artisans managing the centers,
- vi) Implementing a development program for micro and small craft businesses,
- vii) Providing assistance to the supply and marketing of products in foreign markets.

**5) The opening up of production areas.** Stratégies to be implemented will contribute to the opening up of production areas. This is to facilitate the alignment of secondary centers with économie centers. Key stratégies include:

- i) Restoration work on critical points and rehabilitation of damaged trails,
- ii) Construction of new rural trails,
- iii) Planning of some dirt roads,
- iv) Rénovation of selected roads,
- v) Planning and tarring of selected sections,
- vi) Promoting and strengthening appropriate logistics capabilities for people and animais transportation,
- vii) Building capacities in maintaining vehicles and supplying fuel at regular intervals,
- viii) Developing the airport in Agadez.

6) The opening up of roads and isolated parts of the area will also include **improved coverage and access to communication technologies and information**. To achieve this goal, the main actions to be carried out are: i) improving access and accessibility to ICT services: ii) developing infrastructures, computer programs and digital contents.

7) **Strengthening small-scale exploitation of mineral and energy resources**. It involves:

- i) Promoting the création of small and medium-sized production units to ensure better coverage in energy sources of concerned areas,
- ii) Assisting in the création of small and médium units for promoting accessible and sustainable domestic energy sources,
- iii) Giving support in mastering the marketing channel for products resulting from small-scale mining, iv) Ensuring the functioning of pilot units for extracting and processing mining matter that are extracted in a traditional manner.

8) **Improving access to employment opportunities especially for youth and women**. Two short-term key actions are brought forward, namely:

- i) Developing labor-intensive works aiming to provide employment to the youth through gênerai interest and income-generating activities such as *cash for work* and *food for work*,
- ii) Providing assistance in the development of socio-economic initiatives for the youth and women. This action aims to provide technical and financial support in identifying and implementing youth and women initiatives with great potential for viable projects which will result in the création of SMEs / SMLs.

9) **Supporting sports and culture** by initiating periodic meetings in order to promote our cultural héritage and put forward young sports talents through the spread of sports in nomadic areas. This involves establishing periodic meetings, which will take this matter into account.

### iii. **Improving access to basic social services**

#### **1 ) Improving educational opportunities through the following:**

- i) Constructing and supplying school facilities with equipment,
- ii) Restoration of school facilities,
- iii) Construction of socio-cultural infrastructure, reinforcement of technical and human capacities.

2) **Capacity building for keeping children in schools. The following initiatives will be undertaken in this framework:**

- i) Raising consciousness for behavioral change through communication,
- ii) Building school cafétérias,
- iii) Building nomadic schools,

- iv) Building and equipping of housing facilities,
- v) Building awareness for hygiene, sanitation and school health,
- vi) Providing electricity to schools,
- vii) Building rural boarding schools (middle and high schools), vocational, technical and community development training centers, and assisting parents of students from a poor background through income generating activities.

**3) Improving the quality of éducation** through:

- i) Improvement of teachers' qualifications,
- ii) Strengthening of the training staff,
- iii) Allocation of equipment and supplies to school facilities.

**4) Increasing access to services and high quality care** based on the following actions:

- i) Extension of health coverage,
- ii) Adaptation of an initial and constant training,
- iii) Strengthening supply logistics with medicines and vaccines within reach of the populations, iv) Developing biological and scientific technologies.

**5) Strengthening the fight against diseases under integrated surveillance** by:

- i) Reinforcing existing interventions,
- ii) Promoting hygiene and sanitation measures.

**6) Improving the coverage of water need.** This strategy involves:

- i) Constructing new and modern water points (PEM),
- ii) Restoring existing PEMs,
- iii) Strengthening the Systems of AEPs granted to the Société de Patrimoine des Eaux (SPEN, National Water Company of Niger) and incorporating new EPA centers on the authorized perimeter,
- iv) Rehabilitating ponds in grazing areas,
- v) Assisting and advising municipalities on ways to make the Public Water Service function in order to achieve an optimal management of PEMs,
- vi) Assisting in the implementation of National Actions Plan for the Integrated management of water Resources;

**7) Improving access to sanitation facilities** by:

- i) Supporting self-realization of family latrines, and ii) Constructing public latrines.

**8) Improving youth protection** through:

- i) The restoration and equipping of youth development centers, ii) The development of outreach and training based on "life skills", iii) The training of youth in entrepreneurship and projects design.

#### **iv. Improving Local and Community Governance**

This action aims to build capacities to improve people's accountability and achieve a better management of local affairs. In this context, the following need to be accomplished:

**1 ) Capacity building of communes.** These are:

- i) Drawing up an inventory of capacities of decentralized services of the state,
- ii) Drawing up an inventory of the municipal administration's actions,
- iii) Organizing and supporting the functioning of the municipal administration,
- iv) Developing a spécial program for the intégration of former combatants.

**2) Building the capacities of decentralization institutions, by:**

- i) Strengthening technical capacities of parties involved in accordance with needs,
- ii) Providing advisory assistance and training the elected, organizing fora and study and exchange trips.

**3) Provide support to local development through various initiatives:**

- i) Performing an administrative mapping in communes,
- ii) Supporting the development and / or updating of PDCs,
- iii) Strengthening the North/South and South/South decentralized coopération,
- iv) Strengthening of opérations between neighboring communes,
- v) Mobilizing resources from the Diaspora for development,
- vi) Evaluating the performance of communes,
- vii) Assisting the functioning of the ANFICT,
- viii) Assuring an effective transfer of ski IIs and resources to communes,
- ix) Developing and establishing a communication strategy on tax compliance, responsible citizenship and transparency in management,
- x) Capacity building of civil society actors.

**4) Development of synergy and partnership through:**

- i) The création and promotion of régional and local consultation frameworks,
- ii) Improvement of the régional association of municipalities,
- iii) Promotion of the Consultation Committee on Decentralization (CCD),
- iv) Generalization of spaces for dialogue.

**5) Capacity building of traditional chiefs and other opinion leaders by:**

- i) Providing support to the organization and stimulating traditional structures,
- ii) Training on rôles and responsibilities of traditional leaders and interrelationship with other parties,

- iii) Civic training of leaders,
- iv) Training and raising awareness on the prévention and management of inter and intra - community conflicts,
- v) Establishing and managing a civil information System at the basis,
- vi) Raising the value and promoting the rôle of customary rulers as civil officers,
- vii) Setting up and implementing a strategy for mobilizing resources.

**6) Mobilization and promotion of the youth's contribution in development activities and enhancing the esteem of young people by:**

- i) Giving support to youth organizations and building their capacity,
- ii) Strengthening the participation of young people through the CNJ and its components,
- iii) Creating, restoring and providing equipment to promotion centers for young people in every commune, iv) Providing assistance in funding and mentoring young people with projects.

**v. Socio - économie intégration of forced returnees**

It derives from requirements of a spécifique situation but with a transverse positioning over the other strands of SDS Sahel-Niger. The aim here is to provide effective support to these humanitarian cases, that is, the forced returnees in order to create a favorable environment for their socio - économie réintégration in a durable manner and obliterate the risk of worsening the security situation in the targeted areas. This can be done through the following:

- 1) **Give support to the installation of households in their respective areas by:**
  - i) Assessing and identifying returnee households in difficult situations,
  - ii) Assisting in the création of décent housing for the benefit of vulnérable returnees,
  - iii) Assisting in the acquisition of land for residential use, iv) Assisting vulnérable returnees in the construction of houses by themselves.
- 2) **Promote opportunities on the social and économie plan** to benefit returnees at the local level through: cash transfer, seed distribution, targeted distribution of free food, animal distribution, création and implementation of municipal funds for local initiatives, support in agricultural equipment.
- 3) **Create conditions for ensuring food security and access to sustainable employment for returnees, through:**
  - i) Drawing up an inventory and an analysis of local instruments to manage food crisis,
  - ii) Networking local instruments of crisis management,
  - iii) Strengthening local instruments and stocks of food supplies and agricultural and livestock inputs.



### III. Mechanism of Implementation

The framing for implementing SDS Sahel-Niger is articulated around the stratégie configuration, which is defined by the Economie and Social Development Plan (**PDES 2012-2015**) in the short term and the Strategy for Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth (**SDDCI Niger 2035**) in the long term in comparison with the selected option for the prospect. It aims to improve the implementation in order to deal efficiently with challenges related to expected changes in conditions of development and security in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. Finally, it takes into account the institutional distribution of rôles and responsibilities for development management in Niger, but also the transversal nature of this strategy.

The conditions for a successful implementation of SDS Sahel-Niger are based on the following guiding principles: **transparency, participation, flexibility, subsidiarity, equity, partnership, complementarily and synergy.**

Due to its multi-sector and integrated nature intended to have a transversal impact on the socio - économie and security conditions of the Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger, SDS Sahel-Niger is under the political guidance of the **Prime Minister Head of the Government**. This institutional anchor guarantees political and stratégie importance, especially maintaining and strengthening the necessary synergies for successful implementation.

**The steering mechanism** of this strategy is formed by a high-level multi - sector-piloting committee (CMP) coordinated by the Prime Minister. It is the main organ for the translation and expression of synergies between the stratégie partners of SDS Sahel-Niger. Thus, while it is a space for consultation and dialogue between parties involved in the strategy, it is also a framework and decision-making structure in the implementation process.

The CMP brings together under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, members from structures involved in this strategy: (the High Authority for Peace Consolidation, the High Commission for 3N, Technical Ministries, Private Sector and Civil Society Organizations and otherstate structures, civil society organizations and development partners). This Tripartite Committee (State, Civil Society and Development Partners) is a reflection of the stratégie partnership that can ensure a political, stratégie, technical and financial support to the problem of development and security in the Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger.

**The implementation's coordination plan**, in the form of an executive unit, is the body for overall implementation of the Strategy. This unit is led by an Executive Secrétariat and run by a technical team made up of proven experts, in various fields covered by SDS Sahel-Niger, including monitoring and évaluation, administrative and financial management, procurement, internal control and communication.

The programming will be made through annual action plans implemented by

technical ministries and their divisions at different levels in keeping with local authorities and other actors taking part in the process of ensuring the functioning of **SDS Sahel-Niger**.

The funding mechanism of SDS Sahel-Niger **obeys to an integrated perspective in the national and decentralized budgetary System**. However, **the establishment of an autonomous financing mechanism as a "common basket" taking into account all sources of financing available and run by a unique System of management, reporting and control** is admitted. This principle of uniqueness follows the preferred option in favor of the programmatic approach, at the national level and supported by all development partners in Niger. It is also consistent with the principles of the Déclaration of Paris, and above all meets the conditions for transparency, efficiency and preserving the coherence of this strategy's implementation. However, in the design and implementation of this funding mechanism, lessons learned in running such a System in the national institutional environment will be essentially taken into account. The goal basically being to foster a dynamic of transparency and accountability, but also to strengthen the partnership in building greater synergy towards security and development in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger.

The monitoring and assessment mechanism is intended to keep track of performance of the strategy's operational components, through a System that analyses gains made and weaknesses in order to draw lessons. This rôle is set up through a systematic process of collecting analysis, processing and distribution of information, identifying problems, alert the strategy's coordination branch and propose counteractive action.

#### **IV. Overall cost of the strategy's funding a.**

##### **Estimated overall cost**

The total cost of the strategy is estimated at 1,266,104,464,919 CFA Francs distributed over 5 years corresponding to the first cycle of implementation, as follows:

<b>Axis 1</b> : Security of persons and goods	83,767,204,547	6,62%
<b>Axis 2</b> : Access to économie opportunités	787,976,000,000	62,24%
<b>Axis 3</b> : Access to basic social services	326,772,000,000	25,81%
<b>Axis 4</b> : Strengthening local governance	20,500,000,000	1,62%
<b>Axis 5</b> : Réintégration of forced returnees	25,928,000,000	2,05%

Coordination and other implementation structures 21,161,260,372 1,67%

**b. Expected funding sources**

The strategy's financing is expected to originate from the following main sources:

<b>Sources of expected funding</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
“ Government of Niger “	633,052,232,460	50,00%
European Union “ Other	98,505,000,000	7,78%
partners to mobilise	534,547,232,460	42,22%
	<b>TOTAL</b> 1,266,104,464,919	<b>100,00%</b>

## INTRODUCTION

The strategy for security and development in the Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger (SDS Sahel-Niger) derives from the renaissance program for the country, initiated by the Président of the Republic, which represents the basis of the political, économique, social and cultural orientations mentioned in the Statement of Général Policy of the Prime Minister. The strategy sets in motion the political orientation of governmental action within that général framework and its operating mechanism is ensured by the Economie and Social Development Plan (PDES 2012-2015). In this perspective, the Government has opted to focus on the twin aspect of developing human potential and developing natural resources to achieve the many goals of sustainable socio-economic development in Niger. This clearly reflects the political vision and the stratégie option of the Government to establish a socio-economic development of Niger rooted in endogenous bases deemed to be more manageable and responsive to the aspirations and needs of Nigériens.

The Government of Niger's initiative to implement a strategy for security and development in the Sahel - Saharan areas, is therefore testament to the commitments of the Président of the Republic and the Government. It essentially aims at developing a new and stronger dynamic for a greater économie, social and cultural expansion in the Saharan and Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. These areas are faced with spécifique challenges of development largely influenced by deleterious conditions of security prevailing in the area. It should also be noted that areas mainly affected by SDS Sahel-Niger's actions comprise the désert and semi - désert environment. They make up six (6) out of the eight (8) régions of Niger, namely Tillabery, Tahoua, Agadez, Maradi, Zinder and Diffa located in the North - Eastern part of the country and covering about 89% of Niger. The areas are proven deposits of mining and minerais resources, but also a vital space for livestock development, which is the secondary source of the national economy after agriculture. However, these areas face a severe context of endémie poverty, a harsh<sup>2</sup> physical and ecological environment, a high vulnerability to climate hazards, chronic food insecurity, a situation of quasi - generalized unemployment of youth and worsening conditions of security.

Given these uncertainties of natural and human origin, SDS Sahel-Niger marks a renewed and stronger confirmation of the Government of Niger's political will to provide adéquate solutions to the multi-dimensional problem of the socio - économie and cultural development of these spécifique areas and improve the conditions of well - being of people living there.

The Strategy was designed on the basis of a realistic and inclusive approach to the

---

<sup>2</sup> Less than 12% of the of the country's total surface area is suited for agriculture; ... most of the soil is made up of dunes, rendering it poorly productive and prone to hydric and aeolien érosion (source : page 10 of the [National Action Plan for the Adaptation to climatic changes](#) ; CNEED, FEM, PNUD ; July 2006

spécifie problems related to conditions of security and development in the Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. Also, given the challenges and key issues it is going to address at ail levels (local, national and international), this initiative of the Government of Niger will contribute to the wider development and mobilization of régional synergy and convergence of efforts, targeting the security and well - being of individuals and collective populations who live in ail countries of the Sahel - Saharan area.

In essence, SDS Sahel-Niger's document aims at:

- i) Calling to mind the overall context of Niger and specifically that of the concerned areas, ii) Stating the main components of the problem of development of thèse areas,
- iii) Defining objectives and proposing the stratégie axis of intervention
- iv) And finally, outlining the actual framework of its implementation.



# Chapter 1 GENERAL CONTEXT OF NIGER

## 1.1. Geography: a landlocked and austere environment.

A vast country in the Sahel -

Saharan région, Niger is completely landlocked<sup>3</sup> in the middle of West Africa. Located 700 km North of the Gulf of Guinea, 1900 km East of the Atlantic coast and 1200 km South of the Mediterranean, it is bordered by Burkina Faso to the Southwest, Mali to the West, Algeria to the Northwest, Libya to the North, Chad to the East, Nigeria to the South and Bénin to the Southwest. The territory of Niger is 1,267,000 sq km wide, with over two thirds located in désert or semi - désert areas, not



favorable to agricultural activities. Niger is characterized by a Sahel tropical climate with two alternate seasons, a long dry season from October to May and a short rainy season from May to September. The annual rainfall varies between 100 and 800 millimeters from north to south. Niger is located in one of the hottest régions of the globe. Average températures recorded are the highest between March and April exceeding 40 ° C, while the lowest last from December to February when they can drop below 10 ° C.

The agro - ecological and climate zoning of Niger is comprised of four (4) main areas<sup>4</sup>:

“ A Saharan désert and semi désert area, located in the Northern part, covering about 77% of the national land area. The area is mainly characterized by arid and semi-arid lands, receiving little rain.

“ A Sahel - Saharan area (nomadic Sahel) located in the North - Center covering about 12% of the country.

<sup>3</sup>

The nearest port is more than a thousand kilometers away (in Cotonou, Bénin)

<http://www.strategie-developpement-rural-niger.org>

- “ A Sahel area (sedentary Sahel) located in the Central - Southern part of Niger representing 10% of the national territory.
- “ The Sahel - Sudanese area that covers the Southwestern part of the country and represents 1% of the territory.

This zoning exposes Niger to strong instabilities as far as the agro-climatic aspect is concerned. The area potentially favorable to subsistence agriculture is estimated at less than 12% of the total land area. Indeed, only 125,200 km<sup>2</sup> of a total of 1,267,000 km<sup>2</sup>) are used for agricultural purposes<sup>5</sup>. The soils are generally poor and very sensitive to water and wind érosion. Agriculture employs over 85% of Nigériens. However, the actual cultivated area (4,000,000 hectares) accounts for only 3% of the total land area and 25% of the cultivable area. The potential irrigable land is estimated at 270,000 hectares, of which 140,000 hectares are located in the Niger River valley.

Drastic climatic conditions, high population pressure, declining fallow land, low irrigation, declining soil fertility, dégradation of natural resources (water, land, pasture, forest), rudimentary production equipment and very little access to agricultural crédit, etc. hâve greatly contributed to the increased vulnerability of the population, particularly in rural areas.

Niger's relief map présente little contrast. In the North-East, the highlands (800 to 1000 m altitude) are bordered by cliffs which make access difficult, especially in its northern part. To the West and South low plateaus (200-500 m) dominate the landscape, while in the North of the 17th parallel the Aïr massif stretches out, bordered to the West and South, by an outlying physical dépression.

## **1.2. Population: a constraining démographie**

In term of demography, the population of Niger has increased from 11,060,291 in 2001 to over 16.5 million in 2011<sup>6</sup>, with 81.6% in rural areas<sup>7</sup>. It is characterized by an almost perfect equality between men and women (respectively 49.9% and 50.1%), a low density (10.3 inhabitants per sq km) with a high concentration in the South strip of the country. Indeed, the density is unevenly distributed and varies from South to North in proportions ranging from 114.5 people per sq km in Southern areas, to 0.5 people per sq km in the Northern régions.

The annual growth rate of 3.3%<sup>8</sup> makes it one of the highest in the world. The rapid growth is a combination of high level of fertility of 7.1 children per woman<sup>9</sup> (currently the highest in the world according to INS) and décline in infant mortality that has gone from 123 per thousand in 1998 to 81 per thousand since 2006.

---

Prime Minister's Office, *Exploitation and state of natural resources in Niger*, October 2000, page 24 <sup>6</sup> Institut National de la Statistique du Niger (National Statistic Institute of Niger, INS), *Niger Stat N°4* (April-May-June 2008), page 9

INS, « Niger en Chiffre du Niger » (*Niger in Numbers*), 2008 édition

q

Général Census of Population and Housing (RGPH 2001)

EDSN-MICS 2006



This trend will result in a doubling of population every 23 years. Moreover, the high fertility contributed to the rejuvenation of the population. Thus, (52.5% under 15 years old)<sup>10</sup>; 70% are under 25 and only 2.56% are aged 65 and over.

Finally, the high population growth recorded in Niger generates a huge need for basic essential services including education, health, employment, food and safe drinking water, etc. Meeting these needs requires ever-increasing investments which resources generated by the national economy cover only in a small proportion.

### **1.3. Economy: between instability and hope**

The configuration of Nigerien economy highlights an insufficient diversification and a dominant rôle for rural and informal sector. Indeed, the economy remains fundamentally informal: about 75% of GDP comes from the informal sector. The rural sector is essentially dominated by agro - sylvo - pastoral<sup>11</sup> activities, using old-fashioned and inefficient techniques of production in the absence of modern technology and is under the strain of rapid population growth and the uncertainties of climatic hazards. Thus, the progress of Niger economy remains very unpredictable, precisely because of the unsteady evolution of the primary sector where agricultural and pastoral productions are impacted by climate variability. This unpredictability induces a strong degree of uncertainty in the income of the population. As a result, the gross domestic product per inhabitant of about 183,229 CFA Francs (about 366.5 U.S. dollars), places Niger among the least developed countries in the world (economically).

However, the economic reforms that have been ongoing for over a decade have enabled the country to record an average economic annual growth rate (real GDP) of 4.76%<sup>12</sup> between 2001 and 2010. But this performance remains largely insufficient to significantly reduce poverty and enable Niger to converge towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. It should be noted that according to the SDRP analysis (2008 - 2012), in order to reach a significant reduction in the poverty rate, an economic growth rate of at least 7% is needed over time.

If Niger's economy is weakened by internal structural constraints, it must also cope with the demands of an international economic context marked by economic globalization and open markets. This unavoidable mutation necessarily calls for improved competitiveness in all sectors of economic production, including growth areas where Niger can claim potential competitive advantage over other countries in the sub - region.

Alongside agriculture and livestock, which remain the main drivers of economic growth, the contribution of the secondary sector, dominated by the mining of uranium is marginal (13, 2%), despite the fact that Niger is among the world's largest

---

<sup>10</sup> INS, « Niger en Chiffre du Niger » (*Niger in Numbers*), 2008 édition

The primary sector's share in the GDP is approximately 42,8% per year between 2002 and 2006

<sup>12</sup> Percent calculated based on the 2010 statistics data record from the BCEAO (Central Bank of West African Countries), page 94

producers of uranium. However, it should be noted that from 2012, the mining sector is expected to give new life to the national economy with the development of *Imouraren*<sup>13</sup> and *Azelik* (Agadez région) and opérations in oil fields located in the area of Agadem (Diffa Région). Niger oil reserves are estimated at over 300 million barrels. A 462 km pipeline is being built to carry crude oil to the refinery in Zinder, which has a capacity of 100,000 tons. All these perspectives raise high hopes that finally we can see a real économie take-off for Niger.

In terms of domestic resource mobilization, Niger has registered a tax ratio of 13.4% in 2010, which is slightly below the level observed in 2009 when the rate had reached 13.7%, the country's highest performance in fifteen (15) years. However, this rate remains one of the lowest of WAEMU (West African Economic and Monetary Union). Niger is far from the stated goal of 17% tax ratio of the WAEMU, and is well below the performance of its neighbors, members of the WAEMU. However, it should be noted that in fact the définition of tax is not harmonized within the WAEMU.

#### **1.4. Socio - économie context: food vulnerability and chronic poverty**

The country is dominated by subsistence farming based on food crops, and characterized by unpredictable climate, recurring droughts, floods, pest invasions, continued dégradation of the natural environment (nearly 100,000 hectares become unproductive each year), etc. This leads to fréquent food crises and a major chronic malnutrition especially among children less than 5 years of âge. This food and nutrition insecurity, originally located in the agro-pastoral zone, tends to become more widespread in the agricultural areas of Niger. Each year, approximately 10 to 30% of the population records a déficit of 50% of their grain needs.

The observed déficit is exacerbated by the population's high level of poverty, which is worsened by a high demography. Indeed, indicators of Niger reveal a nearly generalized poverty, which constitutes a significant threat to the country's socio-political stability and the sustainable management of its natural resources. The investigation on the basic indicators of well being (QUIBB)<sup>14</sup>, conducted in 2005 by the National Institute of Statistics (INS) shows a 62.1% ratio representing poor people<sup>15</sup> in Niger with 42.5 % of long-term poor and 19.6% of transient poor. However, the investigation on the National Survey on Consumption Budget of households (ENBC 2007), shows an improvement with a downward trend of 59.5% poor Nigériens, slightly less than six (6) Nigériens overten (10).

Finally, note that in Niger, contrary to what one might think, poverty is not only rural (65.7% of the population), it is also urban [55.5% of the population in the suburbs of Niamey is poor].

---

UEMOA, Term Report on the Execution of Multilatéral Surveillance, December 2010 Edition

14

QUIBB : Common Questionnaire of core welfare indicators

It is a matter of monetary poverty here.

### 1.5. Administrative, political and institutional contexts: consolidation and restoration of values

The Constitution of the Republic states that the Seventh Republic of Niger is a unitary state<sup>16</sup>. Its administrative organization is based on the principles of dévolution and decentralization<sup>17</sup>. The country is divided into eight (8) régions, sixty three (63) departments and two hundred and fifty five (255) communes, organized in four (4) cities, thirty seven (37) urban communes and two hundred and fourteen (214) rural communes. The modern administration cohabits with customary rulers, hierarchically subordinated to the devolved authorities.

Various types of récurrent conflicts characterize the socio - political situation in Niger: political conflicts, conflicts over access and control of natural resources, armed conflicts (armed rébellion), etc. Thèse conflicts hâve a more or less severe impact on universal values common to the nation of Niger today: peace, solidarity, democracy, respect for human rights, freedom, justice, human dignity, etc.

On the political front, the process of ownership and rooting of democracy by Niger as a fundamental value of the Republic, was shattered more than once. Thus, from 1991 to today (20 years), the country experienced a sovereign national conférence, five (5) Republics, three (3) military coups and as many totalitarian régimes, two (2) dissolutions of the National Assembly, one (1) illégal dissolution of the Constitutional Court, multiple mutinies by soldiers ... Each time, thèse various political, socio-political and military upheavals hâve led to challenge the démocratie process in the country. They hâve also slowed down coopération relations between Niger and its bilatéral and multilatéral partners, resulting in delays in the implementation of technical and financial assistance for socio-economic development of programs. Récurrent drawback of democracy, the mistakes and muddle of the Niger political class, as well as recurring interventions of the army in the political arena hâve greatly contributed to tarnish the image of the country's political class and army. While, at the same time, the country experienced a loss of integrity, and the values of transparency and objectivity in favor of corruption, influence peddling and outrageous politieization of the state's administrative apparatus. Similarly, poverty, food insecurity, threats to the security of goods and people found a breeding ground for their development.

Besides, in his Statement of Gênerai Policy (DPG - June 16, 2011), Prime Minister Brigi Rafini, said: "*... this mandate starfs in a context which is marked by: the résurgence of insecurity associated to the activism of cross-border terrorist groups and the persistence of armed banditry; widespread poverty and youth unemployment; poor endowment of our country in basic infrastructures...*"<sup>18</sup> needed for development.

In order to provide answers to thèse major concerns, the Prime Minister directs the Government's actions towards: i) the promotion of good governance that should be

---

<sup>16</sup> The Constitution of the Seventh Republic, First Title, article 3

<sup>17</sup> The Constitution of the Seventh Republic, Ninth Title, article 164

<sup>18</sup>

Cabinet of the Prime Minister, Statement of Gênerai Policy présentée! by His Excellency Brigi Rafini Prime Minister, Head of the Government, June 16 2011, page 8

global (political, administrative, économie, and local). In this dimension, security issues are crucial given the stakes and the challenges they represent for the peace and tranquility of Nigériens, but also for the development of Niger in a secure Sahel - Saharan sub région, ii). The promotion of social development: The goal of this stratégie axis is to strengthen the state's capacity to effectively discharge its multi-varied functions in the social and humanitarian fields. iii). The promotion of économie growth and sustainable development that will spread to ail compartments of the country's économie development. However, particular emphasis is placed on agricultural and pastoral development and food security of households across the Niger.

## Chapter 2 DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY ISSUES IN THE SAHEL-SAHARAN AREAS OF NIGER

### 2.1. Brief outline of the targeted areas

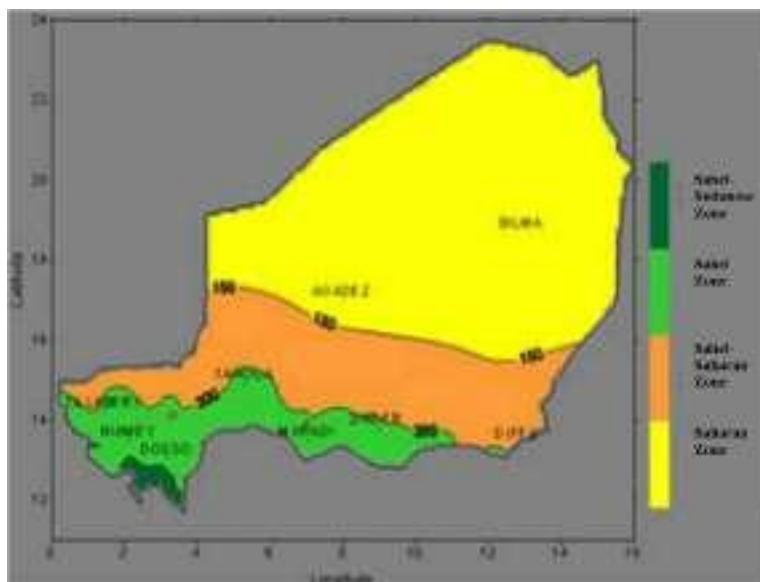
The areas covered by SDS Sahel-Niger comprise the désert and semi-désert régions located in the Saharan and Sahel - Saharan strip. They mainly affect six (6) of the eight (8) régions of Niger: Tillabery, Tahoua, Agadez, Maradi, Zinder and Diffa the North - East of the country and cover about 89% of the total area of Niger.

- **The area North of Tillabery** is primarily pastoral. It has a very important livestock and popular weekly markets such as those in Ayorou, Mangaîzé and Abala. Pastoral production is the main supply chain for Niamey and the

neighboring countries (Mali, Burkina Faso) and taxes generated by the markets make up the essential source of budgetary revenue of communes in the région.

- **North Tahoua, North Maradi and North Zinder** represent the grazing and transhumance areas par excellence and make up 2/3 of the Niger livestock. This important capital stock contributes very significantly to the national GDP. The construction of the refinery in Zinder opens promising prospects for the economy of the région.

- **The région of Agadez** covering half (!/2) of the area of Niger has large mining reserves, uranium in particular, exploited by Areva in Arlit and Imouraren and by a Chinese company in Azelik. The Sonichar exploits coal in Tchirozerine. It is also a grazing and tourism area par excellence where leather craft is highly developed. In the Aïr and in its Northeastern part (Kawar), gardening is well practiced in oases, providing substantial income to population. Récent oil discoveries on the plateau of Mangueni (Kawar) gave hope to people in that part of the country. Unfortunately, because of its immensity and the porosity of its four borders (Mali, Algeria, Libya, Chad), this area was subject to lack of safety and illégal trafficking.



*Source: National Office of Meteorology*

- **The région of Diffa** in the far East, is a pastoral area par excellence. Agriculture is practiced in its Southern part, along the Komadougou River, the Lake Chad and oases basins in the Manga. In its Northern part (Agadem), the imminent exploitation of oil will regenerate the local economy. It should also be remembered that the silting up of Lake Chad is a phenomenon to combat in order to keep this source in Nigérien land.

## **2.2. Considering the issues: stakes, challenges and constraints**

The security issue in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger is closely related to that of development in these areas.

### **2.2.1. An issue of agro - climatic and ecological contingencies**

These pastoral and agro - pastoral areas present agro - climatic and ecological characteristics that expose people living there to extreme vulnerability due to multiple shocks of their living conditions. These agro - climatic and ecological contingencies lead most often to food and nutritional crises, fodder crop crises, poor grazing practices, ecosystem degradation, competition over natural resources available, loss of productive assets of households including livestock, idleness of population including youth with implications for migration and security of goods and people, etc.

These different situations, along with endemic poverty, are carriers of serious threats to the social and ecological stabilities of these areas. Let us recall, as an example, that one of the causes of armed rebellion in Northern Niger is the impoverishment of the different communities, as a result of successive droughts that have decimated much of their herds. This situation, combined with the feeling of being abandoned by a state struggling with the political turmoil of the 90s and the unfavorable economic and financial conditions at the time, eventually shattered the equilibrium on which the communities of Northern Niger have forged their common destiny in harmony with other communities in the country.

In line with seeking appropriate solutions, the Government of Niger has adopted and implemented a rural development strategy (SDR). This strategy, which has received support from development partners including the WFP, has taken into account the rural development of Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger according to their agro - climatic and ecological characteristics. However, these strategies of the State were met with major obstacles due to deleterious security conditions prevailing in the areas for over twenty years. As an example, the situation prevented the implementation of the integrated development program for the pastoral zone, developed and validated in 2000.

In addition, the prevailing insecurity has contributed to limiting the spread of basic social services (éducation, health, water, etc.) in the target area, disrupting the population's access to these services and undermining the significant investments in basic infrastructures for économie and social development needed in these régions.

Considering the issues and challenges in developing the Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger, the Président of the Republic Issoufou MAHAMADOU, reaffirmed his commitment to develop the pastoral areas of the country during his inauguration speech. The commitment was restated in the Statement of Général Policy of the Prime Minister Brigi Rafini, which was adopted by the National Assembly on July 16, 2011.

In view of these commitments, it appears important to define the matter of security in those areas.

### **2.2.2. A situation of complex insecurity with major challenges i.)**

#### **Geo-strategic challenges**

The problem of insecurity in the North and North - East of Niger is multi - dimensional and complex. This complexity is linked to économie, social and cultural development issues of the targeted areas, of the country as a whole, but also of the entire Sahel-Saharan sub-region. It is also associated with geo stratégie issues of "an area with a prolific subsoil, that attracts greed and where competing interests and exterior influences combine." <sup>19</sup>

Proven deposit of mining and mineral resources, these areas are indeed full of important uranium reserves: Arlit Imouraren (Areva - France), Azelik (China). Canadians, Australians, Chinese, Indians, South Africans and French operators, among others, are exploring several other sites. This stratégie mineral<sup>20</sup> resource, which is the main component of nuclear fuel, ranks Niger in the third position as the largest producer of uranium behind Canada and Australia. Uranium represents today about 35% of the country's exports.

In addition to uranium, the sub - soil of the northern area (Tchirozerine - Agadez) of Niger also contains coal currently exploited by SONICHAIR. As an energy source, coal is used in electricity génération and domestic fuel.

Considering the major issues that characterize the Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger, the récent oil discoveries on the Mangueni plateau in the Kawar (Agadez) and in the area of Agadem (Diffa) should also be noted.

---

19

Website of Alternative (Radio Station): summarized transcription of the debate organized at Alternative radio station, presented by Alhassane Abdou, on Saturday November 13, 2010, based on the following thème: "Security challenges in the North of Niger: Analysis and Perspectives" - <http://www.alternativeniger.org>

20

40% of France's electricity production, one of the richest countries, comes from the subsoil of Niger, the poorest country in the world.

The Sahel - Saharan régions of Niger's environment are truly suited for the development of an economy based on livestock, and are grazing and transhumance areas, par excellence, which hold more than two thirds of the Niger livestock. This important capital stock contributes very significantly to the GDP.

### **ii.) A pastoral vocation insufficiently taken into account**

Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger are spaces of coexistence and convergence of interests between ranchers and farmers who are the country's most important socio - économie actors. Due to the endémie poverty in these areas, land is considered the unique wealth of the communities. Under these conditions, access to the land and its resources result in competitions that may escalate into communal and inter - community conflicts. Among these conflicts, the ones opposing farmers and ranchers seem to be the most important in agro - pastoral and agricultural areas where they lead to: "disappearance of the complementarity relation between agriculture and livestock, severe conflict on land issues leading to the depletion of grazing land."<sup>21</sup> In pastoral areas, conflicts between herders are mainly over access and control of water points and grazing areas.

However, development initiatives were implemented in these areas within the framework of the SDRP, the SDR and also following various peace agreements with armed rebel movements that have roamed the région. But these initiatives " .....Failed to take into account disruption in the economy caused by the rebellions. In addition, the pastoral vocation of these areas has not been sufficiently taken into account "<sup>22</sup> in the solutions given by various stakeholders.

### **iii.) An incomplète appraisal of the management of the conflict**

Niger has gone through the bitter expérience of two (2) armed rebellions in the North and North - West and an armed rébellion in the North - East of the country.

The first armed rébellion in the Northern areas (Air and Azawak) and (Kawar and Manga) in the 90s led to the signing of the Ouagadougou Peace Treaty on April 24 1995, of the additional protocol of Algiers on November 28, 1997 and of the peace agreement of N'Djamena on August 21, 1998. The implementation of these peace agreements with the various movements of armed rébellion led to the intégration of 3,014 former combatants in various government services public administration, the défense and security forces and allowed the reinsertion of over 4,050 in socio-economic activities through micro projects, university, high schools, collèges and vocational schools. Four Saharan (4) security companies composed mainly of ex-combatants and citizens of the régions concerned by the conflict, were created in the Aïr, Azawak, Kawar, and the Manga. They are now an intégral part of the

---

21

High-Commission for Peace Consolidation (HCRP), *An integrated analysis of Risk Factors in Niger*, page 19, December 2007

Abdoul Karim Saidou (HCRP), Day of reflection on armed conflicts in the North of Niger, organized by Alternatives Espaces Citoyens (AEC) association and the Nigérien Association for the Défense of Human Rights (ANDDH) - August 2007



National Guard of Niger.

Although significant efforts have been made by the State, major deficiencies have been pointed out, among which Abdul Karim Saidou (HCRP - 2007) cited:

- The delay in the implementation of the socio-economic réintégration process that began only 10 years after the signing of agreements,
- The lack of transparency surrounding the process of recruitment and réintégration of former combatants in the various organs, companies and institutions of the State,
- The non-recruitment of several former leaders of the armed fronts, while some front leaders were appointed in different structures and state institutions. Their reinsertion is still a topical question and deserves special attention in order to reach a final political solution,
- Poor management of the careers of the reintegrated former combatants,
- The inequalities created by the agreements, which have resulted in the emergence of the new rich among the rebel leaders or others who played an important rôle in the rebellion.

These failures were a major source of frustration that fueled the so-called "residual insecurity" and contributed to the emergence of a new-armed rebellion in February 2007. This second conflict was officially brought to an end through the mediation of Libya, which led to the cessation of hostilities, the official handing over of weapons and the financial support for the réintégration of former combatants in 2009. However, no formal agreement was signed with the rebels.

It should be noted that all these rebellions specifically affected the populations of the pastoral zone (Tuareg, Tubu, Fulani, Arabs), which runs from the North of the Tillabery région to the northwest of the country, East of the shores of Lake Chad and through the Northern région of Tahoua, the entire région of Agadez, the Northern régions of Maradi and Zinder and the whole région of Diffa.

"The importance of armed conflict lies in the isolation of the affected areas and the allocation of a large proportion of state resources to the war effort at the expense of development activities."<sup>23</sup> Moreover, even if these situations of armed conflicts officially ended, the fact remains that those areas are still the theater of insecurity which some have called a "residual" one, but that seriously undermine the movement of goods and people and the implementation of development activities.

---

23

High Commission for the Restoration of Peace (HCRP), Integrated Analysis of Peace Factors in Niger, page 24, December 2007

#### iv.) A many sided insecurity

The Areas affected by armed rebellions are also under threats of illicit trafficking and extremism. A particular form of conflict touches each of the zones. The North of Tillabéry is troubled by violence between communities straddling the border of Niger and Mali. The area is also the route through which Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) enters Niger. Areas north of Tahoua and Agadez are the domain of traffickers including members of AQIM. The Aïr Mountains serve as rest areas for gangs. The Tubu rebellion has led to inter-community conflicts in areas East of Zinder and Diffa that are still not healed.

#### v.) A cross-border insecurity

The beginning of oil exploitation, the proximity of the border with Chad and the crisis in Libya pose threats to the peace of the population. The Nigerian sect Boko -Haram, active in the State of Maiduguri, could influence the population of the bordering région of Diffa. The Saharan and Sahel - Saharan spaces located in the heart of the great Sahel, represent an urgent and priority security issue for Niger and for all the countries bordering the Sahara. Indeed, a sort of entanglement involving many actors often with competing interests has been witnessed in recent years: the Government and its development partners engaged in the control and exploitation of the mineral resources laying under the soil of these areas, traffickers of all kinds (drugs, human beings, weapons, cigarettes, alcohol, etc.) who use this space as a haven and a center for criminal activities; Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) who has shifted the center of gravity of its terrorist activities to take refuge in the Sahel where it found a kind of sanctuary away from the pressure of Algeria in its anti-terrorist campaign

In this view, it should be noted that the poor security situation of the area is transboundary and concerns the whole northern frontiers of Niger. According to the

High Commission for the Restoration of Peace (HCRP - 2007), this is largely caused by:

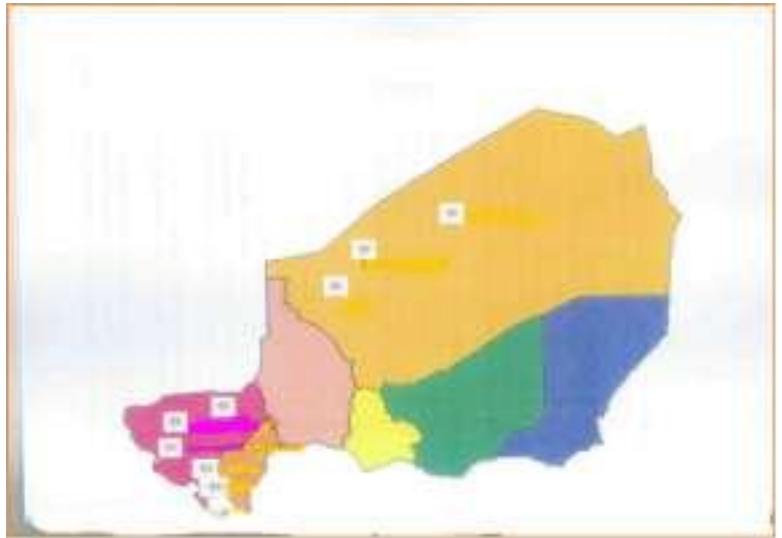
- i) The extent of the territory,
- ii) Its desert nature, practically uninhabited and almost inaccessible, and its

<b>AGADEZ</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AQIM threat;</li><li>• International drugs, arms and cigarette trafficking,</li><li>• Illégal immigration,</li><li>• Armed banditry,</li><li>• Risks related to land-mines,</li><li>• Risks linked to illégal tourism.</li></ul>
<b>DIFFA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Threats related to armed bandits based in the bed of Lake Chad and in the Tibesti massif, Chad,</li><li>• Livestock thefts,</li><li>• Attacks on roads,</li><li>• Threat posed by the sect Boko Haram.</li></ul>
<b>DOSSO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intercommunity conflicts,</li><li>• Drug trafficking,</li><li>• Armed hold-ups,</li><li>• AQIM threat.</li></ul>
<b>MARADI</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Armed hold-ups,</li><li>• Attacks on roads,</li><li>• Livestock thefts,</li><li>• Smuggling,</li><li>• AQIM threat.</li></ul>
<b>TAHOUA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AQIM threat,</li><li>• High risk drug trafficking (Tamesna),</li><li>• Illégal possession of weapons of war,</li><li>• Armed robbery,</li><li>• Livestock theft.</li></ul>
<b>TILLABE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AQIM threat,</li><li>• Armed robbery,</li><li>• Illégal possession of weapons of war,</li><li>• Intercommunity conflicts,</li><li>• Narcotics trafficking,</li><li>• Poaching.</li></ul>
<b>ZINDER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arms trafficking,</li><li>• Narcotics trafficking,</li><li>• Armed group attacks,</li><li>• Livestock thefts,</li><li>• Attacks on roads,</li><li>• AQIM threat,</li><li>• Présence of a Libya-Zinder vehicle theft network via Tesker,</li><li>• Inter community conflicts in the North caused by livestock theft and problems relating to management of water points; and in the South between sedentary farmers and pastoralist herders caused by rural</li></ul>

récent history marked by the occurrence of armed rébellion,

- iii) The low number of border control stations (a total of 16),
- iv) Its position as a crossroad between North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

To these factors must be added the poor equipment and limited resources available to the défense and security forces. The weaknesses outlined above, explain the development of the phenomena of "highway robbery", armed robberies, violent confiscation of goods and livestock, etc. This ail takes place in a context of prolifération of firearms in particular along the contact areas where pastoral and some agro - pastoral activities meet.



In his Statement of Général Policy (June 2011 ) in front of the Parliament, Prime Minister Brigi Rafini emphasized: "the threats to our country caused by centrifugal forces stimulated by repeated armed movements, armed conflicts between communities, the threats of criminal organizations involved in drug weapons and cigarettes trafficking, armed robberies, the activities of road bandits and threats from terrorist groups. "

This picture of a worsening security situation, call for the finding of appropriate and durable responses. In général, insecurity créâtes a breeding ground for the development of armed rébellion. As an example, it is to be noted that the rébellion that erupted in the North - East Niger was helped by the prolifération of firearms coming from Chad where a civil war was prevailing.

The conditions that make possible the reversai of situations in which peace seemed to be definitely established, should lead to a better understanding of the problems that nomads are facing. They also should provide appropriate explanations to the structural causes of conflicts and to new forms of threats associated with a high unemployment rate of youth (graduâtes, former fighters of the former rébellion, migrants returning from Libya and the Côte d'Ivoire, etc.).

## vi.) Humanitarian crises in an environment of insecurity

The recurring security situation in the target areas has been worsening, for several months, due to the massive return of thousands of Nigériens and other nationals from neighboring countries in difficult conditions. This unexpected massive reflux causes a real and serious humanitarian problem in a context of insecurity, a result of the prolifération of firearms due to the armed conflict in Libya and in some countries of West Africa, but also to various illégal trafficking.

More recently, a new situation fraught with risks on the security and humanitarian aspects is developing in Arlit with the déportation from Algeria of over 600 Nigériens in 2012. This reflux of Nigériens is also linked to the development of the Libyan conflict and the général security situation in the région. Note that Algeria and Niger have increased surveillance of their borders with Libya, fearing accrued prolifération of weapons from that conflict to the Sahel, where Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) is already a major threat.

Thus, more than 225,000 Nigériens were forced to return home under extremely difficult and disadvantaged conditions. This is an additional pressure on high concentration areas, where the food situation is already critical, particularly the régions of Tahoua, Agadez, Tillabery, Zinder and Diffa.

It should be noted that according to the January 2011 survey on vulnerability to food insecurity in households, all these régions present a particularly high level of food insecurity.

AREAS	FOOD INSECURITY LEVEL (%)		
	SEVERE	MODERATE	RISKY
AGADEZ			
TAHOUA	8.8%	8.2%	35.2%
ZINDER	7.4%	9.3%	29.4%
MARADI	6.6%	8.4%	26.6%
TILLABERI	6.7%	6.7%	31.9%

In général, structural food insecurity concern between 17% and 20% of households regardless of the result of the agricultural campaign and this has been going on for many years.

Moreover, the seasonal or permanent migration of workers to Libya, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria is an intégral part of the coping mechanisms put in place by households to face food crises and ensure survival. The outcome generated by these migrations is estimated at several billion CFA francs and help in filling the gap generated by poor harvests déficits. These resources are used to finance new crop, including the purchase of seeds, fertilizers, agricultural equipment, food, rehabilitation of shelter and water points for off-season farming activities. These resources are also used for income generating activities and reconstitution of livestock.

The évalution missions of the ad hoc committee for coordinating and monitoring the situation of returnees from Côte d'Ivoire and Libya put in évidence the négative conséquences of this massive reflux on households. This resulted essentially in the depletion of household food stocks, the réduction of cattle, the cheap sale of means of production, the difficulties in cultivating activities, the departure of young people towards urban centers in Niger, the onset of certain diseases (measles, sexually transmitted diseases, in particular), the pressure on health facilities in the transit zones of Dirkou, Agadez and in the communes receiving forced returnees.

Furthermore, conflicts in Libya and Côte d'Ivoire particularly had slowed commercial exchanges in the affected areas, creating a significant shortfall. The situation also affected storage of gardening produce and poor sales of animaux, which in turn impacted scarce natural resources and raised up the cost of living and aggravated inaccessibility to food (lack of liquidity and scarcity of household products markets).

This in addition to the générai challenge experienced by Niger and other countries of the Sahel-Saharan région: the prolifération of weapons of war, the propagation of armed actions, the strengthening of radical groups such as al Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM).

Indeed, Niger is still struggling with the conséquences of armed conflict in the north. Since the cessation of hostilities (through a poorly negotiated peace), the absence of socio-economic potential for young people in générai and ex-combatants in particular, are rendering difficult the promotion of a sustainable peace in the area. Some hâve converted into illégale activities (armed attacks, cigarette, weapons and drugs smuggling...). There is therefore a great risk that thèse young people would become easy target for radical groups like AQIM or be manipulated to fulfill political demands or carry out politically motivated actions.

Therefore, SDS Sahel-Niger advocates the need to tackle this problem, which has serious conséquences on the lives of people in the affected areas, with a view to stabilizing the returnees from Libya, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria in their régions by creating the conditions for socio-economic reinserction.

## Conclusion

In order to meet the different elements of the context and the issues of development in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger, the government must make strategic choices that should significantly and positively influence the dynamics of socio - economic development of these areas. Even though the impulse comes from the Government of Niger, it is still largely dictated by the strategic issues of development of these areas and the pursuit of well - being of individuals and collective communities who live there and should be able to thrive in a quiet intra and inter- community symbiosis.

These strategic choices are embedded in the will and commitment of the Government of Niger to seek and implement sustainable solutions to ensure the security of economic, industrial and social investments factors that are at a critical stage of implementation, while preserving the ecological and social balance in targeted areas.

For all these reasons and in view of the transversal elements of the problem of development and security in the target areas, inter sector, multi institutional, bilateral and multilateral cooperation are absolutely fundamental. These are huge challenges that require dialogue and synergy between all stakeholders: Government of Niger, local communities, local authorities, development partners, national and international investors, private sector, civil society organizations etc. All these stakeholders need to belong to the same chain of values that must act in synergy to achieve together the various objectives that are assigned to SDS Sahel-Niger. The task is certainly difficult and complex, but crucial. As a result, the attention paid by the Government of Niger to the problem of development and security in the Sahel - Saharan areas of the country, is a good indicator of political will and firm commitment that must be understood and accompanied by all stakeholders implicated at both national and international levels.

### **3.1. Objectives of the Strategy**

#### **3.1.1. Général Objective**

The overall objective of SDS Sahel-Niger is to contribute to the économie and social development of pastoral areas of the Sahel - Saharan région of Niger, based on conditions of sustainable peace and the security of goods and people.

*The vision that is conveyed through this objective is that of a Sahel - Saharan space where insecurity is eradicated in a sustainable manner, with the implication of all local, national and international actors. Also, the conditions for individual and collective well - being should actually be implemented and impartially benefit all communities living in those areas and profoundly sharing the sensé of belonging to a unitary country where good governance and démocratie values of justice and human dignity, are respected at ail levels.*

#### **3.1.2. Spécifie objectives**

To achieve the overall objective mentioned above, SDS Sahel-Niger specifically targets the following objectives:

1. Establish, in conjunction with local, national and international actors, conditions for better security of goods and people in ail Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger.
2. Improve the access to économie opportunities and employment, for the population living in the affected areas of Niger, particularly the young.
3. Improve the access to basic social services for the populations living in the affected areas of Niger.
4. Strengthen the capacity for good governance at the community and local administrative levels in targeted areas.
5. Ensure the socio - économie réintégration of forced returnees from Libya, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Algeria.

### **3.2. Major axes**

The above spécifie objectives are implemented based on five (5) major axes:

1. Strengthening the security of goods and people,
2. Ensuring populations' access to économie opportunities,
3. Ensuring populations' access to basic social services,
4. Strengthening local governance,
5. Socio - économie intégration of forced returnees from Libya, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Algeria.

## SECURITY OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

### 3.2.1. Stratégie axis 1: Strengthening the security of people and property

This axis is focused on implementing the following actions:

1. **Strengthening the safety of urban centers and borders.** This action will focus on:

- i) Improving coverage in terms of police services: police stations, response units (BAC, BRI, CNS), border police stations. Overall, this strategy is planning for the construction of 39 police stations, three (3) neighboring police stations, twenty-two (22) border police stations, eleven (11) crime-fighting forces, one (1) security company, two (2) emergency police units, one (1) unit for traffic police, and one (1) intervention group for the national police,
- ii) The création of a wide intelligence network,
- iii) The reinforcement of appropriate logistical capabilities for police services (various office equipment and furniture, transportation and technical equipment meeting the situation's requirements, including transmission and communication equipment). On the account of transportation equipment, the strategy plans to acquire, equip and deploy 49 command vehicles, 100 intervention vehicles (4X4) and 195 motorbikes including 52 DTs; donate fuel and other consumables to ensure the functioning of transportation logistics will also be provided. In term of transmission and communication, the acquisition and deployment of 73 VHF stations, five (5) relays, 33 HF cellular téléphones, 695 handheld devices, 41 Thuraya téléphones, four (4) PBX and ten (10) recorders; are planned,
- iv) Capacity building of the Scientific Police (Equipping of the Forensic Central Service of judicial identity, of the Laboratory of Technical and Scientific Police, modernization of the Office of Internai Intelligence and equipment of services with computer tools),
- v) Strengthening the technical capacity of security forces (weapons and ammunition) as well as that of law enforcement units,
- vi) Modernization of the services of the Général Headquarters of the Police. The initiatives include: the establishment of an Intranet network, the extension of the Internet connection, video - surveillance of sites deemed to be sensitive (Niamey), magnetic badges (for access to MISP / D / AR-DGPN),
- vii) Improvement of the functioning of existing specialized services such as the  
Mobile Company for Border Control (CMCF) based in Konni;
- viii) Création of six (6) Mobile Brigades for Border Control (BMCF);
- ix) The organization and increase of patrols (urban, mixed, deterrence patrols) along the borders and in areas at risk;
- x) Financing the "intelligence gathering" aspect in relevant services.



- xi) Strengthening the capacity of the various police units in human resources through the recruitment, equipment and initial training of 3,810 police officers (from ail ranks) is planned,
- xii) The sustained training of manager and enforcement officers of the police with the training of 270 police officers in the fields of: fight against terrorism (Levels 1, 2 and 3), human resource management, cyber-crime, border crime, ballistics, forensic science, international judicial coopération, travel document, fight against human trafficking and drug trafficking, création of a database and processing and collection of intelligence (RG).

2. **Strengthening security in rural areas:** Considering the global nature of threats and other major risks to security, the stratégies to be implemented should be addressed on a global plan. In this viewpoint, the actions to be taken involve ail régions of the country. For this reason, the following initiatives will be undertaken:

- i) Strengthening security measures in each région, in respect to spécifique security conditions previously identified.

REGIONS	STRATEGIES
<b>Agadez</b>	<p>In view of the serious security situation in the région of Agadez, the following initiatives will be undertaken within the National Guard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rehabilitation of former posts such as Siguidine and Fachi in the Kawar, Injagaran and Tchintaborak in the Tadarest and the RTA squadron in the rural commune of Danett,</li> <li>- Strengthening of ail existing units,</li> <li>- Strengthening the operational capacity of the mobile squadron of Agadez in order to support other units as needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Diffa</b>	<p>Stratégies will focus on the création and the reinforcement of security structures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthening of existing units,</li> <li>- Création of a National Guard Squadron in Lagani,</li> <li>- Création of a National Guard Squadron at Yogo,</li> <li>- Conversion of the N'Gourti squad into a Mobile Squadron,</li> <li>- Création of a camel riding squad in Gadira (in the bed of the lake),</li> <li>- Equipment of Goudoumaria, Mainésoroa, Diffa and Bosso units in trail bikes</li> </ul>
<b>Dosso</b>	<p>The following stratégies will be implemented:</p> <p>Equipment of ail units with vehicles,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthening their operational capacities,</li> <li>- Conversion of the squad in Loga into a squadron, in order to secure the Northern Région and fight against the consumption and sale of drugs and narcotics,</li> <li>- Création of a mobile Squadron in the city of Dosso, to support other units in the région as needed,</li> <li>- Organization of urban patrols,</li> <li>- Increase in joint patrols throughout the Région.</li> </ul>

**Maradi**

The following actions will be carried out:

- Création of a Squadron in Gadabédji in the department of Dakoro, to prevent armed groups from attacking markets and extorting the population;
- Strengthening of existing units in means.
- Création of a mobile squadron in Tibiri (Maradi) to support other units.

**Tahoua**

The focus will be on:

- Strengthening of existing units ;
- Rehabilitation of old abandoned posts, namely: The squadrons of Takanamat, Egarek, Midal, Tamaya and the création of a squadron in Tezerzet close to the Ma lia n border. Thèse squadrons are responsible for monitoring the movement of criminals and terrorists groups présent along the Niger-Mali border;
- Conversion of Tillia and Tassara into squadrons;
- Strengthening of existing units in the southern part of the Tahoua région, which is faced with cattle rustling and armed robberies and création of a mobile squad with a régional compétence in the administrative center of Région.

**Tillabéri**

The focus will be on:

- Strengthening the National Guard squadrons of Ouallam, Banibangou, Abala, Ayorou in human and material resources;
- Création of other squadrons in Inatess, Mangaizé, Ikerfane, which are intersections and possible passages for criminals. Thèse units will be responsible for:
  - o Ensuring a permanent présence on the ground,
  - o Responding to inter-community conflicts,
  - o Permanently monitoring ail tracks leading to Mali
- Conversion of Torodi and Kirtachi squads into squadrons,
- Strengthening of other existing units,
- Création of a Mobile Squadron in the Urban Commune of Tillabéry, with the mission of assisting other units in the région if necessary and continuously monitor the trails in and out of town.

**Zinder**

The stratégies include:

- The création of a squadron in the rural commune of Tinhia (Tanout), tasked with dealing with movements of armed criminals from the Agadez Région, to prevent the infiltration of weapons of war coming from Chad towards the interior of the country, fighting cattle rustling that cause inter-community conflicts;
- The création of a squadron in Kandal Bouzou in the rural commune of Tesker, assigned to fight against the trafficking of weapons of war from Chad and to control and monitor the movements of suspected persons.
- The création of a Squadron in Iday with duty to fight against the trafficking of weapons of war from Chad and large cattle thieves.

**Niamey**

The following stratégies will be implemented:

- Strengthening the operational capabilities of the Law Enforcement Group and the Administrative and Service Group; The planning of security mechanism in hotspots;
- The intensification of the administrative police activities;
- The strengthening of intervention posts;
- The speeding up of the establishment of a Brigade with judicial vocation.

- ii) Restructuring the security mechanism of the National Guard: in view of the country's current situation, the personnel and logistics National Guard has undergone mutation. It is therefore necessary to take into consideration, the specificity of the missions and the complexity of threats of any kind, and reorganize the National Guard units to ensure promptness in action and good coordination in command. This strategy will be implemented through:
- The reorganization of security measures of the National Guard,
  - Transformation of all units located within the sixty-three (63) Department Headquarters into "Groups",
  - Création of more squads to ensure security coverage throughout the National Territory,
  - Placement of squadrons located in the Administrative Departments units under the direct command of groups Commanders,
  - Création of a Squadron of Law Enforcement in each region's administrative center. This specialized unit is at the disposal of the Région Commander,
  - Création of a judicial Trail Brigade in each region's headquarters,
  - Reorganization and maintenance in each region's administrative center of a Unit of Documentation and Information, tasked to oversee sensitive points, to supervise all events in the city, to prevent all risks of instability in the locality. This secret unit will be under the direct orders of the Région Commander,
  - Establishment of camel riding units in squadrons located in areas inaccessible to vehicles;
  - Création of new units led by initiatives to strengthen logistics (vehicles and the like, transmission, communication, defense and security equipment, etc.), technical, human and organizational capacities.

**Note:** Pending the effective establishment of the new squadrons, deployment is foreseen on a quarterly based period of detachments in sensitive areas, where the création of an eventual squadron is planned.

- iii) Communication for behavioral change (CCC) and social mobilization and sensitization of local communities on security issues and the challenges of économie and social development in targeted areas.
- iv) Providing care for victims of casualties (military and civilian) of former rebel movements in Niger.
- v) Strengthening the technical and logistical capacities of military units in intelligence. The stratégies will cover in particular:
- Training of units responsible for research information;
  - Upgrading the operational level of the Air Force intelligence means (night

vision unit, suitable caméras, etc.).

- Supplying the armed forces and the national gendarmerie with the appropriate intelligence means.
- vi) Development of a cross border coordination and synergy for a better management of security issues in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger.
- vii) International advocacy on the challenges, stakes and prospects in relation to the security situation in the Sahel - Saharan areas in général and in Niger in particular.
- viii) Provide for the psycho - social and socio - économique needs of former combatants. This strategy includes capacity building of these former combatants in some of the common fundamental values that form the basis for individuals living in degree of symbiosis in a society, especially in this part of Niger: human rights, republic, democracy, peace, justice, equity, citizenship, liberty, human dignity, etc. The goal here is to make these ex-combatants aware of their civic rights and duties as citizens. In addition, to the acquisition and the strengthening of these values, the aim is to propagate the main principles of the State as outlined in the constitution of the 7th Republic of Niger and some orientations related to local governance, local development, individual and collective participation in the local development process, community life, etc..
- ix) The socio - économique réintégration of former combatants. Drawing lessons from past expériences on the réintégration of demobilized combatants of former rébellion movements, this SDS Sahel-Niger calls for:
- Technical support for the identification and formulation of viable individual or group projects for the création of small and médium units of production and that in view of the socio - économique réintégration of these former combatants;
  - Implementation of programs to support and supervise the création of these projects, particularly through the search for funding, supervision of the operational implementation, expérience exchange, monitoring and évaluation, sharing of information on opportunities, building technical skills, promotion of relevant organizational and associative frameworks, support and advice, etc.

However it should be noted that this program should not be a substitute for the building up of entrepreneur promoters. It should facilitate and support the leadership of these promoters and their accountability in the management of their projects. This is an important condition to ensure empowerment, motivation and sustainability effects of this strategy.

3. Aside from the above actions in terms of security of property and people, additional initiatives will be developed particularly **in the judiciary**, mostly to improve the anti - terrorist judicial center created in 2010. The aim is to install the center and make it operational as part of the fight against terrorism and organized crime.

Besides, SDS Sahel-Niger covers initiatives to support justice through: i) the reform and adaptation of the criminal and penitentiary administrations, ii) the generalization of the mechanism of legal and judicial assistance to vulnerable populations, iii) the building of capacities to fight illegal trafficking, organized crime and terrorism.

## ACCESS TO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITES

### 3.2.2. Stratégie axis 2: Establishment and strengthening of people's access to économie opportunities

This axis focuses on strategies aiming at significantly reducing the effect of endemic poverty of people and unemployment in the target areas, especially of the young. The targeted actions would also complement and contribute to the achievement of the 3N Initiative objectives, which aims to:

- Solve the national food chronic deficit and improve the quality of food by increasing productivity and crop diversification,
- Strengthen the resilience of poor households by increasing their income,
- Reduce malnutrition among vulnerable groups (children under 5 years old and pregnant and lactating women) through diversification and nutritional education,
- Increase the national and local capacities for anticipating, preventing and managing food crises.

It is also an opportunity to further confirm and recognize the pastoral and agro - pastoral vocations of the North and North - Eastern areas of Niger. Nevertheless, in this axis, in a general way, sustainable strategies for identifying and promoting individual and collective projects are implemented, as engines for the socio - économie development of the concerned areas. These actions are based on **developing the agro - sylvo - pastoral potential of the targeted areas**. The aim is to capitalize on the potential of these areas, including availability of suitable land with a microclimate favorable to the practice of a wide range of fruits and vegetables gardening, date farming, availability of abundant renewable groundwater resources, existence of semi-permanent and permanent ponds and importance and variety of livestock.

On this account, this axis aims at implementing the following actions:

1. In the **field of livestock** the strategy's goal is to develop initiatives that aim to increase the availability of animal products: meat, milk, eggs, etc. The focus will be on the following priorities:
  - i.) Increasing and diversifying livestock production, ii.) Securing the environment for pastoral productions,

- iii.) Improving animal health,
- iv.) Adding value to livestock production,
- v.) Building the capacities of intervention of the agents of the Ministry of livestock,
- vi.) Rehabilitating, creating and equipping basic infrastructure,
- vii.) Improving the coordination and monitoring of the project,
- viii.) Re-establishing and protecting productive bases.

2. In **the field of agriculture**, the targeted areas are endowed with great potential for the development of irrigated agriculture and arboriculture. In order to increase the value of these potentialities, initiatives will be developed in the following areas:

- i.) Improvement of access to agricultural inputs;
- ii.) Promotion of women's access to gardening areas and agricultural inputs,
- iii.) Construction and rehabilitation of irrigation Systems (AHA) especially in the plain of Ihrazer (Agadez), in oases and along the Komadougou (Diffa);
- iv.) Development of lands and promotion of small-scale irrigation and modern irrigated farms by setting up a special program for irrigated crops;
- v.) Acquisition and distribution of communal kits, for villagers and household;
- vi.) Valorization of agricultural products and promotion and marketing of the sector;
- vii.) Implementation of a capacity building program at all levels including targeted technical training for middle-class executives, for engineers, as well as continued specialized training and advanced training courses;
- viii.) Promotion of modern irrigated farms.

3. In **the field of environment and natural resource management**, the strategy plans to develop the following initiatives:

- i.) Establishment of a program of natural resource management,
- ii.) Conservation of biodiversity and enrichment of wildlife,
- iii.) Improvement of forest, fishing and beekeeping products,
- iv.) Protection of pastoral resources, water bodies and other natural resources,
- v.) Improvement of environmental governance.

4. The areas located in the Sahel - Saharan strip of Niger are particularly favorable to **tourism and craft**. That is the reason why the following actions will be initiated to promote and develop this field, which represents an important lever for development:

- i.) Restoration of existing infrastructures, building of new infrastructures and support for the renewal of fleet of cars suitable for the tourism industry,
- ii.) Improvement of the technical performance of promoters and tourism agents, iii.) Revision of Niger's tourist map,
- iv.) Identification and development of tourist sites,
- v.) Improvement of the security of tourist sites,
- vi.) Assistance to export/import activities of the industry and exploration of foreign markets,
- vii.) Construction, equipment and promotion of handicrafts centers and villages, and capacity building and training for artisans,
- viii.) Capacity building and training artisan women.

5. In **the field of road infrastructure and transportation**, the actions to be implemented would aim at opening up production areas with a view to linking secondary centers with main économie hubs. They would especially aim at the following:

- i.) Restoration of critical ways and degraded trails,
- ii.) Construction of new rural trails,
- iii.) Development of non tarred roads: Banibangou - Mali border (56 km), Dakoro - Bermo - Abalak
- iv.) Restoration of tarred roads, especially on the North Road RN11 (Zinder - Agadez Agadez - Abalama), Djajiri - Diffa roads, Ouallam - Banibangou and Balleyara - Tabla - Loga,
- v.) Development and extension of tarred road networks, including:
  - Arlit-Assamaka (223 km),
  - Diffa - N'Guigmi- border of Chad (185 km),
  - Filingué - Tahoua (245 km),
  - RN25 - Kao - Tchintabaraden: 87 km,
  - Tillabéri - Ouallam: 72.5 km,
  - Keita-Dakoro-Belbédji - Guézaoua (KDBG): 364 km,
  - Agadez - Dabaga - Timia - Iférouane - Gougaram - RTA: 485 km
- vi.) Promotion and reinforcement of the appropriate logistics for transportation of people and animals,
- vii.) Capacity building in vehicles maintenance and fuel supply at regular intervals,
- viii.) Development of the Mano Dayak airport in Agadez.

6. In **the field of communication**, similarly to the strategy related to road and transportation, the strategy would be aimed at opening up the targeted areas that suffer from poor and insufficient link to the rest of the country. To this end, the main stratégies to be pursued are:

- i.) Improving access and affordability of TIC services
- ii.) Developing infrastructures, applications and digital content.

7. Besides the industrial exploitation of **mining and energy resources**, the strategy in this area consists in promoting the création of small and medium-sized

production units to ensure better coverage of areas in energy sources. The goal is to equip villages with more than 1,000 inhabitants with a source of energy. In the mining sector, the initiatives would promote the involvement of small scale enterprises in the marketing channels of mining products and the promotion of traditional System of extraction and processing of mining substances and products.

8. The **employment issue** is essential in areas concerned by this strategy given the events that have marked them for years. Indeed, idleness can be a source of many temptations (theft, drug trafficking, rebellion). Therefore appropriate and immediate solutions must be provided. Two key actions are proposed in the short term, including:

i.) Development of initiatives involving the execution of high intensity labor works. This is aimed at providing employment to youth through income-generating and other activities of public interest such as *cash for work* and *food for work*. The work can also concern the protection of grazing and agricultural production lands from erosions as well as building rural roads to facilitate communication between production areas and consumption ones. Works may consist in environmental action to protect the slopes in the Air valleys, land réclamation, restoration and construction of rural roads.

ii.) Providing support for the socio-economic development of youth and women initiatives which aims to provide technical and financial support in identifying and implementing initiatives for the young and women presenting great potential for viable projects, in targeted areas. It is part of the same dynamics as that developed earlier in connection with the integration of former combatants. In addition, it includes young people repatriated from Libya, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Algeria. In this framework, modernization of the salt exploitation in Bilma and support for the young and women for the development of SMEs, will also be undertaken.

9. In the **field of sport and culture promotion**: sport and culture's advocacy through the establishment of periodic meetings in order to promote our cultural heritage and put forward young sports talents by spreading sports in nomadic areas. This involves establishing periodic meetings, which will take this matter into account.



## ACCESS TO BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES

### 3.2.3. Stratégie area 3: Improving people's access to basic social services

In récent years, Sahel - Saharan areas have experienced a situation of insecurity in connection with the armed rebellion, the development of illicit trafficking of all kinds (cigarettes, migrants, drugs, etc.), the theft of cattle and inter-community conflicts. This has been a hindrance to sustainable human development in the area. Indeed, a dégradation of public services (éducation, health, water) was noted in the région. Powerful actions should be undertaken in various areas of basic social services, in order to solve this problem.

1. **In the field of éducation**, under schooling and illiteracy are the ills of Niger's population in général and the target areas in particular. Indeed, because of insecurity in these areas, teachers have abandoned their posting, infrastructures are poor and those that exist are not well maintained. The lifestyle of people living in this area requires special approach to educational matters. It is in this sense that the following strategies will be conducted:

- i.) Improving educational availability: it aims at creating better conditions for all children of school age in affected areas through building infrastructures, providing equipment and human resources to meet the requirement of a revised school map. The implementation of this strategy is a condition for the application of the President of the Republic's pledge to make school free and compulsory until the age of 16.
- ii.) Campaigning to keeping children in school. Living conditions in schools are crucial for school attendance in the areas concerned. Indeed, remoteness of schools and poor living conditions of students cause parents to be unwilling to send their children to school. With a view to improving this situation, several initiatives will be conducted:
  - Raising parents awareness,
  - Généralization of school canteens,
  - Establishing nomadic schools,
  - Constructing dormitories,
  - Equipping dormitories,
  - Constructing school canteens,
  - Constructing school latrines for girls and boys,
  - Training teachers and educating students on hygiene, sanitation and health,
  - Equipping schools with small school pharmacies,
  - Equipping schools with modern water points,
  - Providing schools with solar panels,
  - Constructing rural boarding schools,
  - Granting scholarships to encourage students to go to high school.

iii.) Improving the quality of teaching which has deteriorated due to the combination of several factors including the level and qualification of teachers, poor availability of qualified teachers and insufficient material and school supplies. This action, aiming at improving the quality of teaching will be led by the following:

- Allocation of equipment and supplies for schools,
- Curriculum review,
- Initial training of teachers,
- Continuous training of teachers through revitalized educational workshops,
- High quality educational training (educational inspectors and advisers),
- Allocation of means of communication (GPS, Thuraya, etc.) to supervision staff,
- Recruitment of advisors to assist the supervision staff,
- Implementation of specific initiatives to motivate teachers in areas targeted by this strategy.

2. **In the health field**, four (4) major actions will be conducted as follows:

- i.) Extension of health coverage: the recommended initiatives aim to increase health care coverage including reproductive health, throughout the area;
- ii.) Building the technical and human capacities of health units;
- iii.) Permanent availability of medicines and vaccines in order to ensure an effective performance of health units by establishing a proper mechanism to supply health facilities, creating local pharmacies, training pharmacy managers.
- iv.) Communication actions and advocacy for greater use of health services including reproductive health facilities.

3. **In the field of hydraulics**, access to water by the people and animals in the Sahel - Saharan areas is a big challenge for the development of these areas. In this regard, two (2) main actions can be conducted to satisfy the water needs of the population and livestock:

- i.) Improving water coverage through specific actions based on assessing water potential of the areas concerned, identifying existing water points, restoring village wells, renovating pastoral wells, constructing small water supplies, constructing additional village wells, constructing livestock wells, developing ponds in the pastoral zone, using new and renewable sources of energy.

Improving the management of water points: a good mechanism for managing water points may help solve several problems such as communal conflicts, management failure leading to equipment breakdown. Also, this strategy involves: raising users' awareness of water points, establishment of management committees, training members of management committees, training for maintenance workers of water points.

## STRENGTHENING THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE

### 3.2.4. Stratégie axis 4: strengthening governance in communities and at local authorities' level

Strengthening national unity, maintaining public order and improving the living standards of people are considered part of the missions of the public service of a unitary state. They can be attained only through the restructuring of the administrative and territorial Systems. That calls for the establishment of administrative districts and local government as the institutional framework for the représentation and intervention of the state but also as a venue to ensure the involvement and the participation of the population.

Furthermore, if the création of local government remains an ordinary législative act, the proclamation by the constitution itself of the principle of free administration of these structures by elected bodies, shows that Niger has opted for new governance based on shared rôles and responsibilities between the state and local authorities.

The objective set here is to make the process of decentralization more effective by setting up mechanisms to ensure good governance and greater transparency in the management of local authorities while ensuring strict compliance of the functions, rôles and responsibilities of différent stakeholders.

It will cover three areas, namely: (1) capacity building of local governance, (2) capacity building of community governance, (3) strengthening social participation.

1. **Capacity building of local governance:** decentralization has raised many hopes among the people of Niger in générai and particularly in the areas concerned. This decentralization is indeed seen as a response to bad governance, which was one of the causes of the rébellion. However, the analysis showed that the local governance's weakness in capacity is a threat to citizens' expectations and to the aim for change in the quality of the management of development at the local level. Also, the strategy will contribute to improving this situation in the affected areas through the following initiatives:

- i.) **Capacity building at the commune level:** in this area, the initiatives will focus on conducting an assessment of the capacity of décentralized services of the State responsible for the supervision of communes, conducting an inventory of the municipal administration in terms of human resources and material resources, organizing and supporting opérations of the municipal administration, developing a spécial program of intégration of former combatants and its implementation at ail levels (municipal, departmental, régional and even national).
- ii.) **Capacity building of decentralization stakeholders:** this implies identifying needs for capacity building and training of local officials, for technical services of decentralized territorial administrative units and civil society actors. Thèse trainings will be conducted to complément existing interventions and those initiated by other partners.
- iii.) **Provide support to local development:** the strategy is directed at providing relevant support in synergy with ail stakeholders towards the implementation of various initiatives including:
- Completion of administrative census in communes,
  - Facilitating access to certificates (birth, marriage, death, nationality...) to ail citizens in the affected areas.
  - Development or updating of communal development plans (PDC),
  - Development and strengthening of decentralized North-South and South-South coopération,
  - Mobilizing Diaspora resources for development,
  - Achieving a status report on the performance and the financing of the actions of communes based on the criteria of good governance,
  - Assuring the functioning of the ANFICT,
  - Effective transfer of state resources to communes in accordance to the law,
  - Developing and implementing a communication plan on tax compliance, responsible citizenship and transparency of municipal management,
  - Capacity building of civil society (promotion of peace and security, control of citizen action, grassroots development...).
- iv.) **Development of synergy and partnership** through the création and improvement of régional and local coopération frameworks; expansion of the régional association of municipalities and the Concertation framework on décentralisation.
- v.) Promote everyone's access to official documents by strengthening the capacities of the involved departments and multiplying administrative divisions.

**2. Capacity building of community governance.** Traditional rulers and other community leaders play an important rôle in the organization of community governance. They greatly contribute to resource mobilization, social mobilization, to the entrenchment of traditional values and the maintenance of order and social

peace. No strategy for maintaining and consolidating peace, in this case in the affected areas, can succeed without the participation of community leaders. This is why special attention should be paid to them. Furthermore, concrete actions that will strengthen their capacity to participate effectively in efforts for local and national development should be led and encouraged.

In this perspective, the following is recommended:

- i.) The Capacity Building for traditional rulers and other community leaders by providing them with a substantial support in:
    - Organizing, structuring and improving traditional, regional and local structures. Their capacity should also be built in local governance, in accordance with their specific rôles.
    - Developing a mutual understanding of rôles and responsibilities, as well as shared relations that must exist between the different actors in the chain of local and community development.
    - The promotion of the foundations and principles of local and community management in a context of democratic governance should be clearly addressed and integrated into current practices and the exercise of community leadership.
    - Also, fundamental values underpinning the foundation of the republic and communal harmony must be integrated into the thematic for building leadership skills of community leaders.
  - ii.) **Involving community leaders, traditional rulers in particular, in the efforts for local development:** This is a logical consequence of the implementation of building the capacity of leaders in initiatives. In this direction, building the organizational and logistics capacity of traditional leaders, is an option that will be implemented as part of this strategy. In this case, it includes the participation of community leaders in general and traditional leaders in particular, in the core of local development actions, including the security of goods and people. In this perspective, the objective is to:
    - Assist in security matters through the establishment of a civil information System and information management,
    - Enhance and strengthen the rôle of the civil officer, in mobilizing resources for local development and conflict resolution between and within communities,
    - Educate and raise the awareness of traditional leaders
    - Involve traditional rulers in all development issues.
3. **Strengthening social participation:** social participation is a fundamental pillar in the overall development process in general and in local development in particular. In Niger, where the youth represent about two thirds of the total population and women constitute more than half of this population, it seems logical, relevant and compelling for them to be at the heart of governance issues at all levels and at the local level in particular. Thus, to improve local governance of development, it is important to strengthen the capacities of youth and women in playing their rôle. Also considering the context of insecurity that the areas

targeted by this strategy are exposed to, it should be noted that these two groups of actors have played a critical rôle in the rebellion and are also the first victims of the consequences of the insecurity that prevails in the concerned areas. It is therefore imperative for them to be involved socially in the reinstatement of a climate of peace and security in these areas.

The following strategies will be implemented in order to strengthen social participation in local development and restoration of sustainable peace and security in Northern and North - Eastern areas of Niger.

**Strengthening women's leadership:** The initiatives to be developed are intended to strengthen the economic power and capacity of women to fully play their role in developing the area and in contributing to the efforts for peace and security. These include:

- Developing women's socio-economic activities (AGR, livestock, crafts),
- Funding initiatives of women's organizations and developing micro finance institutions to facilitate women's access to credit,
- Improving the health of mother and child,
- Enhancing and improving the social position of women (literacy, CCC, advocacy for peace and security...).

**Youth promotion:** the aim here is to better organize and value the contributions of youth in development activities and strengthen their feeling of self-confidence through:

- Support to youth organizations and strengthening their capacities,
- Support in developing an action plan for youth,
- Youth involvement in local communal development efforts,
- Support and assistance in funding youth projects, private initiatives, educational and socio-economic projects,
- Implement a consistent national policy for youth and employment of the young,
- Creating youth development centers in each commune (libraries, leisure centers...).

## SOCIO - ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF VICTIMS OF FORCED REPATRIATION

### 3.2.5. Stratégie axis 5: the socio - économie intégration of forced returnees

The year 2011 was marked by armed conflicts in Libya, Côte d'Ivoire and électorat and religious violence in Nigeria. Thèse external events hâve corne to add fuel to an already complex situation of insecurity in areas targeted by this strategy. Thèse events caused the prématuré return, in extremely difficult conditions of migrant workers to Niger forced to flee the theaters of conflict and violence. Thus waves of hundreds of thousands of Nigériens returned home, without the resources to participate and reintegrate a normal active socio - économie life. Thèse are true humanitarian cases, which présent major risks to the already deleterious security climate prevailing in thèse areas.

This stratégie axis dérive from a spécifique situation presenting éléments common to the other axes of SDS Sahel-Niger. It is designed specifically to organize assistance and bring an adapted humanitarian response to this case and create a favorable environment for the socio - économie reinsertion of returnees while eliminating the risks of worsening the security situation in the targeted areas.

In this spécial section, the strategy is structured around the following centers:

**1. Provide support for the installation of Nigériens "returnees" in their spécifique zones:** the matter hère is to facilitate, under acceptable conditions, an effective rehousing of at least 1,000 households of forced and vulnérable returnees in their respective localities. In this context, an assessment of housing needs of homeless households will be conducted in concert with ail stakeholders, including local community leaders, etc. This strategy will promote the development of targeted support for the acquisition of land favorable for residential use and construction.

**2. Capacity building of forced returnees in agro pastoral production and in the exploitation of other socio-economic opportunities at the local level,** with a view to facilitate their reinsertion. The aim is to devise rapid, direct and targeted solution to mitigate the adverse effects to the process of reinstallation of households of forced returnees in their communities.

The implementation of this strategy requires the taking into account of many challenges including the définition and application of eligibility criteria for households. In this perspective, partnership is advised with local NGOs and with local community leaders who hâve a good knowledge of the social realities of targeted communities.

As an illustration, the initiatives to develop may be:

- Cash Transfer,
- Distribution of seeds,
- Free distribution of targeted food,
- Distribution of animais,
- Création and implementation of communal funds for local initiatives,
- Assistance in agricultural equipment
- Etc.

**3. Création of conditions that can ensure food security and sustainable access to employment of forced returnees** victims of war in Libya and Côte d'Ivoire, of political and religious violence in Nigeria and those sent back from Algeria. This action combines with others to strengthen the resilience of forced returnees and extremely vulnerable households, to the risks of food insecurity and socio - économie disruption.

The result will be attained by using and strengthening existing network and local instruments for supplying, managing and distributing / redistributing inputs and food stuff (cereal banks, etc.). These opérations will rely on community and communal schemes, which constitute the first level of the management of emergency actions and of support for improving the availability and access to food at the local level. The strategy will undertake an assessment and analysis of the local System for food crisis management, the networking of local instruments for crisis management; the strengthening of the supply of food, agricultural and livestock inputs at the local level.

NB: aspects dealing with security concerns associated with this forced repatriation of Nigériens are taken into account in major axis 1 of SDS Sahel-Niger.

### **3.3. Risks**

#### **3.3.1. Nature of risks**

The main risks associated with this strategy are:

- An insufficient mobilization of resources for the implementation of the strategy,
- The outbreak of a new conflict in the affected areas,
- A political and institutional instability in the country.

#### **3.3.2. Analysis and management of risks**

The strategy will be implemented in partnership and/or in collaboration with several stakeholders: Ministries and other national structures, decentralized state administrations, organizations of local civil society, private sector, Communes, and grassroots communities. Thus, in addition to physical and climatic conditions, other risks associated with the sociopolitical and économie situation must be considered in the implementation of this strategy. The risks are:

- A political instability at the national level that may undermine the démocratie process and décentralization as well as the mobilization of the above - mentioned actors involved in the implementation;
- An insecure or conflict situation in the affected areas that would jeopardize the implementation of initiatives (non-availability of target groups, insecurity, etc.);
- A severe food insecurity as witnessed from 2005 to 2010, which will change the order of priorities of the government and its partners away from development of communities and communes;
- Poor management of production factors (cash, seeds, animaux, food) in terms



- of targeting and transparency by partner NGOs and CBOs;
- Risks associated with poor cash management (transport to communities, armed robberies, embezzlement, etc.);
- Poor management of local Systems (BC, BAB) by partner CBOs and NGOs.

Niger is currently in a normal phase of political stability with a promising future in démocratie terms. To préserver this environment and minimize the risk of political instability, the Government of Niger will take spécial care in promoting an open and constructive dialogue between stakeholders at community and municipal level. The strategy calls for local support for the establishment of monitoring mechanisms and rapid reactions over potential conflicts and security risks in the areas concerned

To minimize the risks associated with cash management and risks affecting production factors in the process of reaching beneficiaries, it will be wise to refer to confirmed expériences developed in Niger and other countries in the sub-region, such as money transfer and food acquisition schemes from food security and disaster management programs in order to assist local actors responsible for managing these resources.

The program also requires capacity building of CBOs and NGOs and of communities themselves for accountability and a transparent management of common property.

### **3.3.3. Key hypothèses.**

The preconditions and hypothèses to be considered are:

- The risk of an insecurity situation in Northern Niger, which could arise from the ongoing conflict in Libya, should not disrupt the implementation of the program,
- The threat arising from the situation that prevails in Mali and Nigeria,
- The political situation must not destabilize the normal functioning of the program or the local governance in communes,
- Two years of successive droughts do not occur during the life of the program,
- The current world market rates evolve favorably improving access to food by poor household.

The monitoring and évaluation System of the project involves, in addition to the usual plans, a mechanism for monitoring the hypothèses. This plan will incorporate not only ail the risks mentioned above but also the risks that are linked to the achievement of these hypothèses. Triggers will be determined for each risk in order to alert the Department of the Prime Minister to take the required actions, in time.

The framework of implementation of SDS Sahel-Niger is articulated around components of the strategy established by the Economic and Social Development Plan (**PDES 2012-2015**) in the short term and the Strategy for Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth (**SDDCI Niger 2035**) in the long term in comparison with the selected option for the prospect. It intends to give impulsion to the strategy and deal efficiently with the challenges expected to arise because of changing circumstances in the conditions of development and security in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. Finally, it takes into account the distribution of institutional rôles and responsibilities for managing development in Niger, but also the transversal nature of this strategy.

The définition of the framework's implementation is structured around the following dimensions:

- i) Guiding principles for the implementation of the strategy,
- ii) Institutional establishment of this strategy,
- iii) Control mechanism of the strategy,
- iv) Organizational management,
- v) Funding mechanism of the strategy,
- vi) Mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the strategy.

Thèse procédures must absolutely obey two major demands: meeting the requirements of conformity and efficiency to stratégie axes and that of accountability vis-à-vis the objectives of the Strategy.

### 4.1. Principles of implementation

Attaining the various objectives and a successful outcome of SDS Sahel-Niger depends on the quality of the implementation mechanism. This is why it is important to outline the principles guiding the actions, but also to clarify the rôles and responsibilities of each actor involved in the implementation. The conditions for success are based on the following guiding principles: **transparency, participation, flexibility, subsidiarity, equity, partnership, complementarity and synergy.**

### 4.2. Institutional anchorage of the strategy

SDS Sahel-Niger is placed under the supervision of the Prime Minister's Office, because of its multi-sector and integrated characteristic and the transversal nature of the socio-economic and security conditions in the Sahel-Saharan régions of Niger. Note that under the Constitution of the 7th Republic, the Prime Minister heads the government's actions. As such, he sets the fundamental political orientations, coordinates and ensures consistency in the government's actions. Also, the institutional anchorage of SDS Sahel-Niger confers to it a political and stratégie importance, particularly to maintain and strengthen the necessary synergies for a successful implementation. Therefore, the Prime Minister ensures the impulse and

control of the *exécution* process. He guarantees the Government's political commitment in the implementation process and promotes the development of multi - sector synergies in a multi - actor partnership framework toward the achievement of SDS Sahel-Niger's objectives.

### **4.3. Steering mechanism of this strategy**

The steering committee of SDS Sahel-Niger is set in the form of a high-ranking multi-sector steering committee (CMP) under the Prime Minister. This is the main organ for the affirmation and expression of synergies between the leading partners of this strategy. Thus, while it constitutes a space for consultation and dialogue between stakeholders in the strategy, it is also a political and decision-making organ in the implementation process. As such, it has five (5) main tasks:

- i.) To adopt the multi-annual action plan of this strategy as well as annual activity programs, budgets, various annual reports on performance in the implementation,
- ii.) To evaluate the performance and achievements and provide corrective actions and *stratégie* directions for filling any gaps,
- iii.) To *déterminer* all measures tending to improve performance in implementation,
- iv.) To approve the various *évaluation* reports of the implementation of the strategy,
- v.) To undertake advocacy to promote and mobilize political, financial and technical partnership as part of the implementation of this strategy.

The CMP gathers members from structures involved in this strategy, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister's Office: ministries and other state structures, civil society and private sector organizations and development partners in Niger. The Tripartite Committee (State - Civil Society, private sector and Development Partners) is a reflection of the *stratégie* partnership that must exist by all means to provide a political, *stratégie*, technical and financial support to problems of security and development in the Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. It is composed as follows:

1. The Prime Minister's Office,
2. A *représentative* of the Ministry for Planning, *Régional* and Community Development,
3. A *représentative* of the Ministry for the Interior, Public Security, Decentralization and Religious Affairs,
4. A *représentative* of the Ministry of Finance,
5. A *représentative* of the Ministry of National *Défense*,
6. A *représentative* of the Ministry of Equipment,
7. A *représentative* of the Ministry of Agriculture,
8. A *représentative* of the Ministry in charge of Livestock,
9. A *représentative* of the Ministry of Water Resources and Environment,
10. A *représentative* of the Ministry of National Education and Literacy,
11. A *représentative* of the Ministry of Health,
12. The *Président* of the High-Authority for Peace Consolidation ,

13. The High - Commissioner of the 3N Initiative,
14. A representative of the CCAIN,
15. A representative of the RECA,
16. A representative of the Délégation of the European Union,
17. A representative of the Coordinator of the United Nations System.

As a matter of fact, the composition, structure, opération of the CMP as well as the exécution of its missions will be decided by an executive act of the Prime Minister. As a steering mechanism, opération of the CPM is based on the principles of:

- i.) Affirmation of the leadership of the State and the primacy of national régulation,
- ii.) Transparency and partners' participation in strategy oriented décisions and funding,
- iii.) Accountability with regard to the use of financial resources pooled by various partners and the results that are expected from the implementation of SDS Sahel-Niger.

#### **4.4. Coordinating mechanism for the implementation of the strategy**

The mechanism for coordinating the implementation, in the form of an executive unit, is the body for supervising the overall work of the implementation of the Strategy. This body for coordinating the implementation is led by an Executive Secretary. It discharges the following responsibilities in the implementation of this strategy:

- i.) Stratégie operational and budgetary planning of the overall implementation of the strategy;
- ii.) Coordination of the implementation of various action plans;
- iii.) Development of ail initiatives to mobilize required resources for the implementation of this strategy;
- iv.) Technical, administrative, logistical and financial management, in accordance with action plans and in compliance with international conventions and rules of management. This responsibility includes the exécution of a financing plan, approved by the Multi-Sector Steering Committee (CMP);
- v.) Accountability and reporting to supervising authority of this strategy and the CMP, on the progress of the implementation and utilization of human, material and financial resources available;
- vi.) Implementation of the recommendations and décisions of the CMP;
- vii.) Interface between the CMP and the various levels of implementation of the strategy;
- viii.) Development of synergy gateways between the various actors involved in the implementation of this strategy;
- ix.) Development of technical and financial partnership for the implementation of this strategy;
- x.) Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the strategy;
- xi.) Participation in sessions of the CMP, in an advisory capacity;
- xii.) Developing and drafting proposais to the CMP, for the adoption of objective criteria in approving requests for funding investments in the implementation of the various operational components of the strategy;
- xiii.) Secrétariat during sessions of the CMP.

This executive unit is headed by an Executive Secretary and led by a technical team of proven expertise in the various fields covered by this strategy, including monitoring and évaluation, administrative and financial management, procurement, internal control and communication.

## 4.5. Funding mechanism of the strategy

### 4.5.1. Nature of the mechanism

The funding mechanism of this strategy **obeys to an integrated perspective in the national and decentralized budgetary System**. However, **the establishment of an autonomous financing mechanism as a "common basket" taking into account all sources of financing available and run by a unique System of management, reporting and control** is admitted. This principle of uniqueness follows the preferred option in favor of the programmatic approach, at the national level and supported by all development partners in Niger. It is also consistent with the principles of the Déclaration of Paris, and above all meets the conditions for transparency, efficiency and preserving the coherence of SDS Sahel-Niger's implementation. However, in the design and implementation of this funding mechanism, the lessons learned in running such a System in the national institutional environment will be essentially taken into account. The goal basically being to foster a transparency and accountability dynamic, but also to strengthen the partnership in building a greater synergy in favor of security and development in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger.

The implementation of SDS Sahel-Niger generates institutional changes induced by the challenges and issues that have to be made at both national and local levels. Decentralization and development of multi sector partnership actors will play an important part in the institutional configuration of the financing mechanism of this strategy. Also, the funding mechanism and its methods of functioning will be adjusted on the basis of greater openness to partners. This unified mechanism of multi-donor funding, will be led by the Multi-sector Steering Committee and placed under the aegis of the Prime Minister's Office in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry for Planning.

The funding mechanism is intended to fund the annual work plans (AWP) as part of the implementation of SDS Sahel-Niger. To meet expenses of the implementation, this unique mechanism of funding centralizes the state contributions, financial contributions from development partners in Niger, the funds gathered through co-financing in partnership with sector strategies (PDDE / PSEF<sup>24</sup>, PDS, SDR, etc.), financial contributions from local authorities and resources resulting from decentralized cooperation.

---

24

Sector Based Program on Education and Training (PSEF)

## **4.5.2. Functioning of the mechanism**

### **i.) Mobilization of Resources**

Mobilizing and securing financial resources will obey to a single manual of procédures developed and accepted by ail stakeholders in the strategy. This manual will be developed under the responsibility of the Executive Secrétariat and approved by the Multi-sector Steering Committee. It should follow the example of national procédures that are currently the object of an agreement between technical and financial partners in Niger. However, exceptionally, certain incompressible procédures of partners could be taken into account to optimize the conditions for contributing to the common fund.

### **H.) Access to resources**

It should be remembered that access to thèse funds is subject to approval by the Multi-sector Steering Committee and directed by the Président of CMP. It is accessible under the following procédure: the Executive Secrétariat prépare an annual work plan (PTA), supported by an annual budget, in a participatory and interactive manner, with various partners for the operational implementation. The annual plan and related budget are subject to approval by the CMP. Once approved, thèse instruments provide the basis for the various funding requests. Thèse requests will be examined in light of the various eligibility criteria approved by the CMP. Subséquent disbursements will be made in accordance to the established financial management procédures.

### **iii). Audit**

The Direction of the Cabinet of the Prime Minister is responsible for the auditing to be conducted by independent auditing firms, on an annual basis. The administrative and financial officer is responsible for carrying out the audit recommendations, under the supervision of the Head of the Executive Secrétariat.

## **4.6. Framework for monitoring and évaluation**

### **4.6.1. Rôle and objectives of monitoring and evaluating the strategy**

The rôle of monitoring and évaluation is to seek effectiveness in the implementation of the operational components of the strategy, through a System of analysis of, the weaknesses observed and benefit from past expériences. This rôle is implemented through a systematic process of collecting, analyzing, processing and distributing information, identifying problems, alerting the Coordination of the strategy and proposing corrective action. The objectives of monitoring and évaluation are:

- Set relevant, shared, impartial, consensual, realistic and achievable indicators for the différent levels of the chain of results.

- Measure gaps in considération to forecasts in order to highlight problematic situations that may compromise the achievement of différent objectives of the strategy;
- Propose corrective measures and alternatives for making a suitable décision by the coordination of the strategy or, if need be, by the Multi-sector Steering Committee or the guardianship (Cabinet of the Prime Minister);
- Reconstitute monitoring and évaluation information in the form of periodic reports for better information within the Executive Secrétariat of the strategy and towards the CMP, political tutorship and various technical and financial partners;
- Establish a database of the implementation of the strategy, so as to allow monitoring of efforts for mobilizing resources (inputs), technical achievements, and results attained by the implementation of the strategy, as well as effects and impacts generated in the médium and long terms.
- Facilitate décision making to guide the implementation of the strategy and improve its impact on beneficiaries.

#### 4.6.2. Nature of information for monitoring and évaluation

The coordination unit, responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the strategy, regularly analyzes and identifies trends and measures the level of effective outcome against expectations, based on indicators of achievement defined for the implementation and in accordance with the différent levels of results in the chain.

Thus, the Executive Secrétariat in this monitoring and évaluation process must organize to have the information to assess the following aspects:

- i.) **The consistency of interventions:** the aim is to monitor and assess the level of consistency between the stratégie choices made and the needs in development and security in the areas concerned by this strategy. This assessment also addresses the consistency of implemented actions compared to various stratégie frameworks of référence at the national level.
- ii.) **The capacity of structures for implementation and their respective comparative advantages.** The aim is to monitor and analyze the strengths and weaknesses related to the implementation of the strategy, as well as opportunities and threats to the environment and to the context of its implementation. This analysis will highlight the internal capacities of implementation on the one hand and the external factors that influence the process and results on the other hand. It should lead ultimately to **the identification of the lessons learned** during implementation.
- iii.) **The efficiency of implementation:** the objective here is to assess the level of achievement of various parameters in the chain of results (level of mobilization of resources, level of technical achievements, level of achievement of expected results, exécution of changes resulting from the

implementation of the strategy). It is expressed as a ratio between the desired outcomes and the results reached. It allows us to assert whether the objectives and / or achievements are reached or completed and to measure their values. If need be, this will lead to the identification and explanation of the differences between expected results and achievements on the one hand and on the other hand to highlight the constraints and obstacles encountered during the implementation in order to make proposals for improvement.

iv.) **The effectiveness of the implementation:** This is an expression of relation between results and resources used. It aims among other things at checking whether the allocated resources are used or rationally managed. The data and information collected should allow the Executive Secrétariat to undertake multi criteria analysis on the efficiency of the strategy's implementation.

v.) **The impact and sustainability of achievements:** monitoring and évaluation of this strategy should address concerns such as assessing the achievements made during the implementation, in terms of their viability (sustainability). In other words, it is about appraising the possibility of maintaining the flow of benefits achieved through the implementation of the strategy, on a sustainable basis, particularly in the security and development conditions in the target areas.

#### **4.6.3. A few considérations relevant to the implementation of the monitoring and évaluation System**

In order to implement the monitoring and évaluation System it is advisable to take the following factors into considération:

- In accordance with the principles of the Déclaration of Paris on aid effectiveness, the monitoring and évaluation System should meet the requirements of management dedicated to results including the chain of expected results of the strategy's implementation.
- The monitoring and évaluation System of the strategy will be attached to the various indicators of national référence frameworks. However, given the specificity of this strategy, in conjunction with the spécifique problem it addresses, other appropriate indicators will be established. In this case the cost-opportunity ratio will be considered.
- Monitoring is an ongoing process based on the collection of data and information on the implementation of the strategy and the éléments of the environment that are likely to significantly influence the success of the implementation.
- The coordination unit's team and the steering committee will conduct follow-up missions in the areas where the strategy will be conducted. Thèse missions will be used to prépare for the various reviews of this strategy that are held annually. The development of indicators at the chain of expected results' level will be analyzed during this annual review. In the same way, the conditions of



implementation will be examinée! in order to make necessary recommendations for the implementation of the Strategy. The System of information collection will be based on:

- " Administrative records, national surveys and spécifique surveys which will serve as basis for operating the mechanism. Some surveys will be updated and further studies and quantitative and qualitative surveys at national, régional and local levels, taking gender into account, will be conducted:
- " Identification and implementation of some spécifique thematic studies,
- " Information collected from the structures involved in the implementation of the Strategy.

With respect to the assessment, it should be noted that this is an exercise of limited duration, destined to systematically and objectively assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the actions implemented as part of the Strategy. This will be done through:

- " Periodic reports that will keep track of the progress of the strategy and provide éléments of décision making,
- " Review by sector to permit the assessment of the level of implementation and accordingly adjust the support of partners to changes in the national and international context and effectiveness.
- " An annual review that allows a deeper analysis of spécifique and technical areas.

A mid-term review of the implementation will be conducted to provide the opportunity to amend, redirect and take into account new issues based on the obtained results. It will particularly allow the analysis and assessment of the évolution of conditions determining the capacity of stakeholders in the implementation to fully assume their spécifique rôles and responsibilities, in the long run. It will also establish a diagnostic analysis on the progress of implementation in order to redirect or reinforce the planned stratégies if needed.

Further évaluation is planned at the end of the term of the first cycle of implementation of the strategy. It will check if this cycle has been successful in terms of its actual impact on people, its durability, its fairness and its contribution to the development of the areas concerned. It is actually a matter of measuring the acquired results, the effects of the implementation of the strategy in particular and to draw lessons from past expériences. It also allows measuring this strategy's contribution to the several socio - économie development processes in the areas concerned at the community level. However, it also helps to assess positive changes achieved in these areas in the fields of security and peace conditions.

Terms of référence will be developed by the coordinating unit and discussed with the various stakeholders for each assessment.

In any case, the coordination unit will set the operational mechanism to make sure that all essential functions in monitoring and evaluation are taken care of. A framework for measurement of performance of the strategy and a plan for monitoring and evaluation should be developed for this purpose.

**5.1. Cost for implementing the strategy**

**c. Estimated overall cost**

<b>STRATEGIC AXES</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	
<b>Axis 1</b> : Security of persons and goods	83,767,204,547	6,62%
<b>Axis 2</b> : Access to économie opportunities	787,976,000,000	62,24%
<b>Axis 3</b> : Access to basic social services	326,772,000,000	25,81%
<b>Axis 4</b> : Strengthening local governance	20,500,000,000	1,62%
<b>Axis 5</b> : Réintégration of forced returnees	25,928,000,000	2,05%
<b>IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY</b>		
Coordination and other implementation structures	21,161,260,372	1,67%
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>1,266,104,464,919</b>	<b>100%</b>

**d. Expected Funding sources**

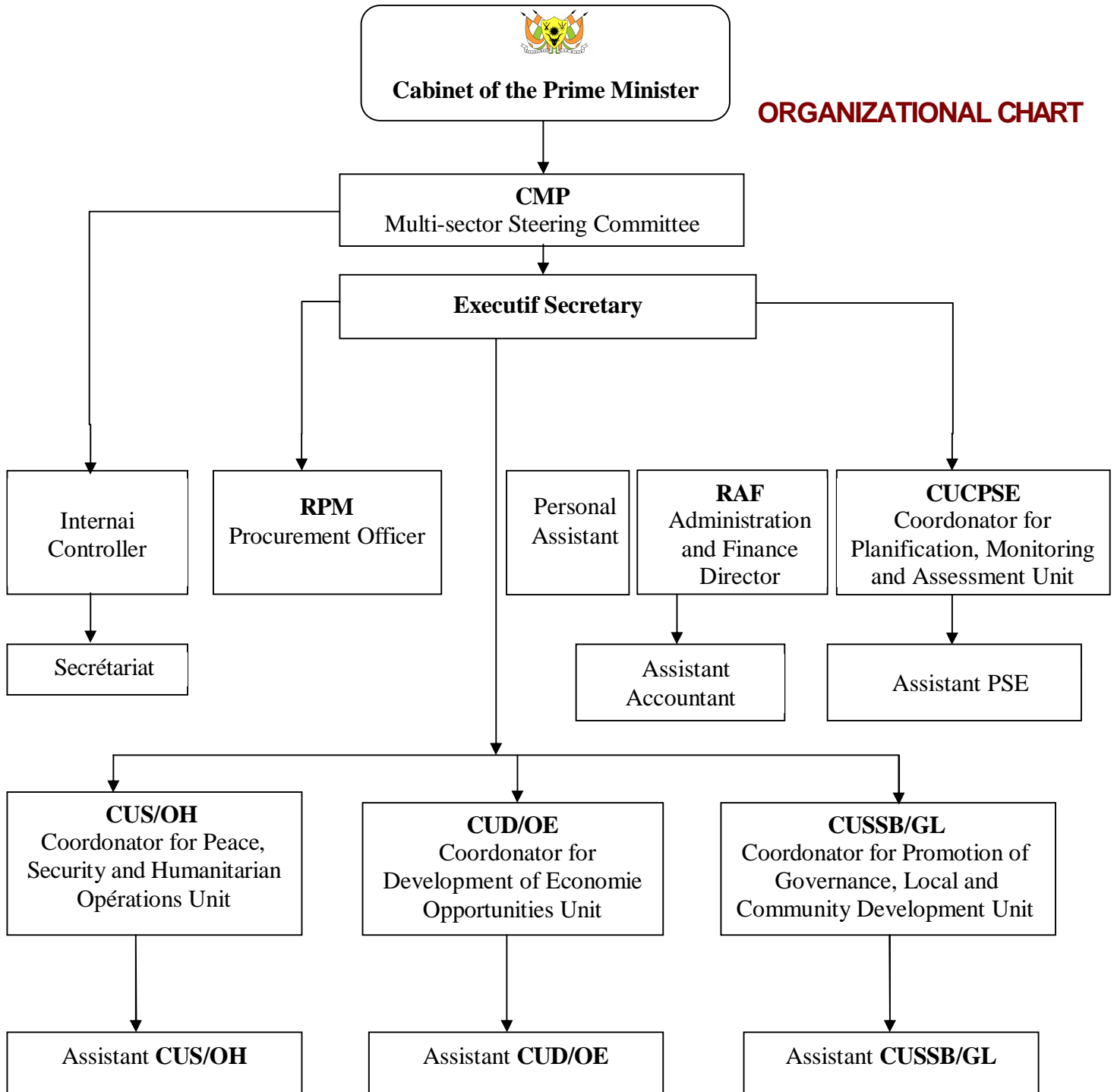
<b>Sources of expected funding</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Government of Niger	633,052,232,460	50,00%
European Union	98,505,000,000	7,78%
Other	534,547,232,460	42,22%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,266,104,464,919</b>	<b>100,00%</b>





**Cabinet of the Prime Minister**

**ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



## GENERAL CONCLUSION

Building a development environment that is peaceful, secure and stable for the individual and collective fulfillment of populations throughout the national territory is a strong commitment of the Président of the Republic and constitutes a major challenge to the Government of the Republic of Niger. The issue is a big challenge, and is at the heart of the national community cohesion, which represents the foundation of Niger as a nation. Moreover, it contributes to the perspectives of socio - économie development conceived as fortified walls against poverty, food insecurity, multiple déficits in éducation and health, insecurity of persons and property, illégal trafficking of ail kinds. In fact, this is about the irrévocable and incompressible mission of ail political power accountable to the citizens in the exercise of its responsibilities but also in the face of history.

This strategy of development and security in Sahel - Saharan areas is undoubtedly a manifestation of the exercise of political consciousness of the Président of the Republic and the Government of Niger facing major challenges in building a Nigérien nation that is economically stronger, more cohesive socially, more radiant culturally and irreversibly rooted in the values of peace, democracy, justice and respect for human dignity. SDS Sahel-Niger is also a call to ail Niger's development partners and ail stakeholders to résoudre the issue of security and development in Sahel - Saharan areas. It also urges them to join forces in this dynamic mobilization against insecurity and poverty in this part of Niger in particular and the whole country in général. Efforts to be made are certainly huge but they are proportionate to the needs of the populations in the affected areas and to the expectations of économie and social actors whose investments and diverse interventions are major opportunities for the individual and collective well being, especially in targeted areas.

The five (5) pillars that support this strategy gives it an integrated approach and unified characteristic in the management of the issue of development and security in Sahel - Saharan areas of Niger. As such, the fundamental issue of security in the affected areas is rightfully placed in a national but also sub - régional and cross-border context. In the same way, solutions are sought to the issue of humanitarian support and socio - économie reinsertion of forced returnees due to situations of war and multiple serious social and political problems in some countries of the sub - région: Libya, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Mali and Algeria. The strategy also addresses issues of prévention of situations of insecurity by controlling the illicit movement of weapons of ail kind and criminal trafficking in the Sahel - Saharan strip in général and in Niger in particular. Finally, the strategy calls for pragmatic initiatives likely to reduce the frustrations resulting from mistakes in the post - conflict management of consécutive armed rébellion that thèse areas hâve experienced in récent years. Thèse initiatives affect both former combatants currently demobilized and victims (military and civilian) of thèse conflict situations.

SDS Sahel-Niger also focuses on access to économie opportunities for the populations

especially the young and women, from the affected areas. Thus, it places the pastoral and agro - pastoral vocations of these zones in the center at the same time than the valorization of human potential and natural resources, which abound in these regions. The purpose is to significantly reduce the surrounding poverty in these areas. More, the aim is also to equally diminish youth's vulnerability to criminal violence and protect them against terrorist currents and other criminals who view crime as a means to reach economic, social and even political success. Axes of the strategy virtually address all areas contributing to the socio - economic development of the individual and the community.

The third dimension of this strategy is centered on access to basic social services by the populations of the affected areas. These are the major components of human development including education, training and health. In this dimension, SDS Sahel-Niger is also important to household food security through initiatives to reduce vulnerability and increase access to safe drinking water and to pastoral hydraulics. This is a dimension that is part of the dynamic driven by health and education sectors, but also by the 3N Initiative.

SDS Sahel-Niger is an avenue for strengthening local governance including community governance enabling a better management of security and development issues in the concerned areas. It places emphasis on building the institutional, technical and organizational capacities, including support to local development.

Finally, to keep pace with the developing context characterized by socio - political turbulence, SDS Sahel-Niger takes responsibility in bringing practical solutions to the humanitarian issue related to forced repatriation of Nigeriens from certain countries.

## REFERENCES

1. Abdoul Karim Saidou (2007): réflexion sur les conflits armés dans le Nord du Niger.
2. Alhassane Abdou (2010): Enjeux sécuritaires au Nord du Niger: Analyse et perspectives.
3. Banque Centrale des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (2010): Annuaire statistique.
4. Cabinet du Premier Ministre (2000): Exploitation et état des ressources naturelles au Niger.
5. CNEDD (2006): Programme d'Action National pour l'Adaptation aux Changements Climatiques.
6. Haut-commissariat à la Restauration de la Paix (2007): Analyse Intégrée des Facteurs de Risques au Niger.
7. Institut National de la Statistique (2001 ): Recensement Général de la Population et de l'Habitat (RGPH)
8. Institut National de la Statistique (2008): Questionnaire Unifié des Indicateurs de Base du Bien-être (QUIBB).
9. Institut National de la Statistique (2008): le Niger en Chiffre du Niger.
10. Ministère chargé de l'Intérieur et de la Sécurité Publique (2011): Attaques ou incidents à caractère terroristes enregistrés au Niger entre 2009 et 2011.
11. Niger (2006): EDSN-MICS
12. Niger (2007): Document SDRP 2008-2012
13. Niger (2010): Constitution de la 7ème République.
14. SEM Brigi Rafini Premier Ministre du Niger (2011): Déclaration de Politique Générale.
15. Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africain (2010): Rapport semestriel d'exécution de la surveillance multilatérale.



