

Existing rates of: **Wasting: 18.7%** **Stunting: 43%** **Proportion of population underweight: 37.9%**

Source: Gov. of Niger (DHS and MICS, 2012)





















### Strong Performance

- The Government encourages varied agricultural research and extension services, and local farmer organisations are involved in setting policy priorities. The extension system is effective and properly reaches out to poor farmers. Government policies, strategies and mechanisms seek to ensure gender equity in access to extension services.
- Relative to other HANCI countries, Niger's medium/long term national development policy (Plan de Développement Economique et social (PDES)) assigns strong importance to nutrition.
- Niger instituted a separate budget line for nutrition, enabling transparency and accountability for spending.
- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- The Government of Niger promotes complementary feeding practices and has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 95% of children in 2014.
- In Niger, constitutional protection of the right to food is strong.




### Areas for improvement


- Spending on agriculture (9.2% of public spending in 2014) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Niger's spending in its health sector (7.6% of public spending in 2014) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In Niger, the law gives women and men equal economic rights and equal legal access to agricultural land. However, these laws are not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- Policymakers in Niger do not benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2012.
- Weak access to an improved source of drinking water (58.2% in 2015) and an improved sanitation facility (10.9% in 2015) prevents positive outcomes for hunger and nutrition in Niger.
- In Niger, constitutional protection of the right to social security is weak.
- Social safety nets in Niger are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.
- Civil registration rates are weak (63.9% in 2012) and potentially hold back children's access to critical public services such as health and education.

## Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

























Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
 Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	 9.2%	2014	7th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	 7.6%	2014	36th
<b>Policies</b>			
 Access to land (security of tenure) <sup>2</sup>	 Moderate	2014	Joint 33rd
 Access to agricultural research and extension services <sup>2</sup>	 Strong	2013	Joint 14th
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 63.9%	2012	Joint 22nd
 Functioning of social protection systems <sup>2</sup>	 Weak	2016	Joint 20th
<b>Laws</b>			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food <sup>2</sup>	 Strong	2014	Joint 1st
 Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) <sup>3</sup>	 In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
 Equality of women's economic rights <sup>3</sup>	 In Law, not in Practice	2011	Joint 7th
 Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)	 No	2012	Joint 28th

<sup>1</sup> Possible scores are:  <75% of agriculture (Maputo) and health (Abuja) spending pledges  >=75 % and <100%  >=100%

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are:  Very Weak/Weak  Moderate  Strong/Very Strong

<sup>3</sup> Possible scores are:  Not in Law  In Law Not in Practice  In Law & Practice

## Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	NCI Rank of 45
 Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
<b>Policies</b>			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 95%	2014	Joint 16th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 Yes	2010	Joint 1st
 Population with access to an improved water source	 58.2%	2015	36th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 10.9%	2015	45th
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 82.8%	2012	Joint 34th
 Nutrition features in national development policy <sup>1</sup>	 Strong	2012-2015	9th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 Yes	2014	Joint 1st
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 No	2012	Joint 35th
<b>Laws</b>			
 ICMSB <sup>^</sup> Enshrined in domestic law <sup>2</sup>	 Many Aspects Enshrined	2016	Joint 15th

<sup>1</sup> Possible scores are:  Very Weak/Weak  Moderate  Strong/Very Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are:  Not Enshrined in Law  Few/Many Aspects Enshrined  Fully enshrined.

<sup>^</sup> International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes