NIGER

People in need 3 million

People targeted **2.1 million**

Requirements **US\$ 16.91 million**



Context

Niger is experiencing complex and protracted emergencies. The security situation remains precarious and volatile in the border areas of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Nigeria, marked by an upsurge in attacks by non-state armed groups. The country also experiences natural disasters in a cyclical fashion due to its geographical environment.

In 2021, Niger experienced four epidemic-related health crises in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to a flood-related disaster and the risk of emerging and re-emerging diseases. The critical needs identified by Rapid Response Teams include shortages of essential medicines; poor access to basic health care and services; and lack of quality care provision. Referral and triaging of emergency cases to adequate facilities has been extremely challenging. The lack of functional health facilities with 24/7 availability, and the absence of an early warning system for the rapid detection of epidemics and other health events have also been identified as major gaps.

Response strategy

The humanitarian response strategy is based on the provision of health care and services through the support of existing health structures and the organization of mobile clinics and temporary structures in camps for displaced persons and refugees. The following will be integrated in the response strategy:

- Strengthen surveillance of priority diseases (diseases with epidemic potential, including COVID-19).
- Provide quality emergency health care.
- WHO works in Niger to help ensure that 1.2 million people in vulnerable settings, including people with disabilities, benefit from an appropriate response to emergency health situations, especially epidemics and disaster management in departments with acute needs. © WHO

- Expand access to basic and referral health services for displaced persons and host populations through the provision of medicines, medical supplies, and equipment.
- Strengthen the skills of health providers for the management of common pathologies and referral, including mental health care (training, supervision, responses to various emergency situations).
- Strengthen the capacities of health facilities in reproductive health in the context of the movement of populations using basic medical equipment.
- Support community engagement at multiple levels (regions, districts, and local levels, especially health committees).
- Strengthen coordination mechanisms at the national level and synergy with other sectors, including nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene, and protection and food security.

Country priorities

- Ensure people in vulnerable settings, including people with disabilities, benefit from an appropriate response to emergency health situations, especially epidemics and disaster management.
- Ensure people in vulnerable settings, including people with disabilities, have access to quality health care.
- Strengthen coordination capacities, adaptation, and resistance to shocks in relevant ministries, amongst health workers, and in communities.

COVID-19 response

COVID-19 response activities include strengthening coordination and logistics through the implementation of the preparedness and response plan. Protocols will be revised for the control of stocks of personal protective equipment and other consumables and community surveillance activities will be scaled up from 7 to 44 health districts. COVID-19 response activities will be decentralized in the country (project pilot in Niamey).

Strengthen case detection

- Expand COVID-19 screening in integrated health centres.
- Enhance systematic detection among land travellers at bus stations.
- Establish community screening sites for COVID-19.
- Supply reagents and consumables to laboratories.
- Conduct genomic surveillance by sending samples to the Institut Pasteur of Dakar.
- Build local capacities for detection of new variants and sequencing.
- Monitor vaccination status of all COVID-19 positive cases for analysis and action.

Support decentralization and training of health workers in case management; operation of case management sites; performance of death audits; improvement of the quality of data management at different levels; and equipping sites with emergency beds, resuscitation kits, and oxygen production

- Focus on personal protective equipment and other equipment to comply with public health and social protection measures.
- Strengthen awareness and guidance for establishing triage systems at hospitals.
- Ensure provision of medicines and equipment for health structures in emergency situations.
- Support training of personnel in primary health care.

Overall country funding requirements for emergency response, including COVID-19, by pillar (US\$ million)

Pillars	Emergency response	COVID-19/ACT-A	Total
P1. Leadership, coordination, planning, and monitoring	2.41	1.61	4.02
P2. Risk communication and community engagement	-	0.32	0.32
P3. Surveillance, case investigation, and contact tracing	0.40	1.46	1.86
P5. Diagnostics and testing	0.78	0.94	1.72
P6. Infection prevention and control	0.02	0.53	0.55
P7. Case management and therapeutics	1.93	0.61	2.53
P8. Operational support and logistics	1.84	0.15	1.99
P9. Essential health systems and services	1.03	0.37	1.40
P10. Vaccination	-	2.01	2.01
P11. Research, innovation, and evidence	0.37	0.15	0.51
Total	8.76	8.15	16.91

For more information

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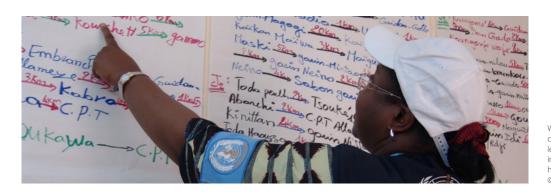
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WHO works in Niger to strengthen coordination mechanisms at the national level and synergy with other sectors, including nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene, and protection and food security. © WHO / Bachir Chaibou