



Ensure that all children in Niger can
“survive, learn and be protected”



Save the Children

www.niger.savethechildren.net



Save the Children



Save the Children is the world's leading independent organisation for children.

OUR VISION is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development, and participation

OUR MISSION is to inspire breakthrough in the way the world treats children and achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives

STRATEGY

GET TO KNOW OUR APPROACH

Our theory of change to build a better world for and with children

By 2030, Save the Children's global strategy wants to guarantee to all children the three following breakthrough:

We will...



SURVIVE

NO CHILD DIES FROM PREVENTABLE CAUSES BEFORE THEIR FIFTH BIRTHDAY

LEARN

ALL CHILD LEARN FROM A QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION

BE PROTECTED

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IS NO LONGER TOLERATED

OUR MISSION, MORE URGENT THAN EVER

2015 has been marked by three major steps for Save the Children in Niger, making it a decisive year for us.

First of all, it has been 10 years now that our organisation is working in Niger. Secondly, this year has been marked by the first attacks that occurred in Diffa, testing our ability to adapt our humanitarian response to this crisis. Finally, this year we developed our 2016-2018 strategic plan, which will allow us to build a solid foundation to achieve our brearyrkthroughs by 2030.

But 2015 has also been a good year to celebrate growth and perseverance. Since the opening of the country office in 2005, we have capitalised, year after year, on our major actions, marked by our passion for excellence.

The new management and operational era in which we entered since March 2013, and the results achieved since then, make us proud to say that the children of Niger are benefitting from our mission in the country.

We have established strong and strategic partnerships with the government through a close collaboration with local authorities and the communities, promoting our acceptance within the local communities.

Save the Children portfolio in Niger recorded this year a budget increase of 5%, which places us undoubtedly among the most important programmes of Save the Children in the region. In the same way, we enjoy the support and trust of our organisation's members, as they are aware that the region in which we operate carries major issues for the wellbeing of children.



Ely Keïta, holding Save the Children's logo made of clay by the children of Aguié, Niger

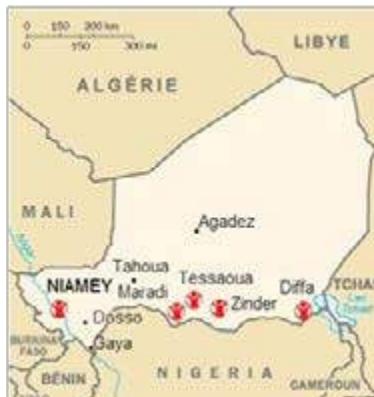
Our operating platform has also evolved to intensify our impact on children, thanks to the launch of the Sponsorship programme, the modernization of our information systems and human resources management, the establishment of internal and external communication processes and the strengthening of our monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning department.

The 2016-18 period also promises many challenges. For example, the campaign "Every Last Child" will be the opportunity for us to advocate for every child to "survive, learn and be protected", particularly through our fight against malnutrition and early marriage.

Half way through, our mission is more urgent than ever to ensure that Niger reaches these goals by 2030.

Ely Keïta
Country Director

OUR WORK IN NIGER



Save the Children has been working in Niger since 2005, first supporting children and their family during the food crisis. We have been working in close collaboration with the government to ensure the wellbeing of children, through activities in health and nutrition, water, hygiene and sanitation, child protection, education, food security and livelihoods, child rights governance and advocacy. We are implementing our programmes in four regions: Niamey, Maradi, Zinder and Diffa.

However, the country's general context remains a challenge for all stakeholders: Niger once more came bottom of the 2015 UN Human Development Index, and is marked by malnutrition and chronic food insecurity. The country is also prone to disease outbreaks and natural shocks like droughts and floods, and the flow of displaced people fleeing violence in Mali and Nigeria is aggravating the situation and increasing needs for urgent humanitarian assistance.

Regarding children's rights, national laws are still not fully harmonised with the international instruments that Niger has ratified – like the International Convention on Child Rights and the African Charter on the Children Rights and Wellbeing – and their implementation is hindered by local customs. For instance, Niger is the country with the highest rate of early marriage in the world.

Save the Children is committed to defend the rights and wellbeing of Nigerien children. Switching an increasing proportion of our work to longer-term development funding has facilitated more integrated programming. We also sustain long-lasting cooperation with key partners: the government, our donors, and local and international NGOs, with whom we work in coalition on the issues of nutrition and food security.

To respond to the crisis in Diffa, we have scaled up the programmes we were implementing in the region since 2009 and extended our action to new sectors, shifting from a development approach to a humanitarian response.

	76% of girls marry before they turn 18
	Female youth literacy rate (15.1%) is more than half that of male (34.5%)
	47% of Nigeriens don't have access to safe drinking water versus 54% in 2012 14% have access to sanitation facilities in rural areas
	An estimated 2.5 million people are chronically food insecure and 2 million are estimated to need assistance in 2016
	Almost 1 child out of 2 is chronically malnourished in Niger Over 400,000 children are expected to suffer from Severe Acute Malnutrition in 2016

2015

In 2015, we have reached:

- directly : 1,344,824 people, including 874,157 children
- indirectly : 2,941,932 people

2015 was also marked by the scaling up of our emergency response in Diffa, to respond to the upsurge of violence and the resulting increase in number of displaced persons.

NUTRITION

Nutrition remained our largest programme and continues to play a major part in the 2016-2018 Country Strategy, where reduction of stunted growth is one of our key objectives. To achieve this, we support the Ministry of Health in improving prevention, access to services and quality of management of acute malnutrition.

We actively advocate for an appropriation of nutrition activities by the communities and the health and administrative authorities, as evidenced by our key partner position in collective initiatives like the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) international grouping in Niger, the 3N (“Nigeriens feed Nigeriens”) initiative, the Technical Group on Nutrition (GTN) and the technical Committee for the elaboration of National Strategy on Nutritional Security.

However, a lot remains to be done as the degree of integration of nutrition in primary and secondary health care systems remains worryingly small. A study conducted by Save the Children in 2015 shows 84% of nutrition activity at local level is paid for by international NGOs. As part of the “Nutrition Coalition”, made up of 14 NGOs, we advocate to ensure that enough human resources are dedicated to nutrition and that the costs of treatment and prevention of malnutrition are included in budgets at all levels.



Crédit : Olli Cohen / Save the Children

2015

	89,330 children treated in the 128 nutritional recovery centers supported by Save the Children
	More than 95% of children treated in these centers recovered from acute malnutrition
	4,582 community volunteers trained on acute malnutrition screening technics - Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measure
	1,267,584 people reached by awareness campaigns on key family practices 261 people recruited and deployed to seven health districts
	135 health structures continuously supplied with nutrient inputs and medicines
	142 support groups for infant and young child feeding practices established in seven health districts

OUR KEY ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Support treatment of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women
- ➔ Train and support volunteers in awareness-rising activities, prevention and identification of malnutrition
- ➔ Advocate in favour of the integration of malnutrition management as a public health priority and in the national budget



“When we arrived to the stabilisation centre (CRENI), Kanta was extremely thin and apathetic. Now he has gained weight and he cries when he wants milk “, Amina, Kanta’s grandmother

Crédit : Corantine Groccia / Save the Children

HEALTH

We provide important support to preventive and curative activities through:

- Logistical back-up to health centres and hospitals
- Mass screenings and vaccination campaigns
- Support to mobile clinics in the Diffa region
- Human resources support and capacity building through training for health district staff
- Joint supervision visits with health districts and regional health directorates
- Community participation, awareness raising activities and support to health agents
- Support to the referral system

We also worked to strengthen the capacity of local authorities and communities to respond to epidemics by supporting the development of district and regional level contingency plans and supported teams of nurses and community health workers carry out quarterly mass immunisation campaigns.

2015

In 2015, our health programmes supported seven health districts.

A key aspect this year was putting together the Health component of the 2016-18 Strategic Plan, ensuring it a central place in the country programme. The Global Fund for Health System Support project, which got underway this year aiming at reducing child morbidity and mortality specifically due to malaria and HIV/AIDS and covering all 8 regions in Niger, will contribute significantly to this. A further Tuberculosis component is to be added to it during 2016, thus extending its scope. Our 2015 priority was improving detection of these diseases at targeted health centres and hospitals, with extensive rehabilitation of laboratories and provision of equipment in 30 sites coming on stream.



OUR KEY ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Support the provision of antenatal care, quality maternity services and postnatal care
- ➔ Organise awareness campaigns to prevent child and maternal diseases
- ➔ Support health structures to promote free access to health care
- ➔ Train health workers
- ➔ Advocate for an increase in the share of the national budget allocated to health
- ➔ Support the referral systems for severely malnourished children with medical complications and women experiencing complications at birth

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

WASH also holds an important place in our health activities to strengthen the capacity of communities to improve their environment and prevent diarrheal diseases.

OUR KEY ACTIVITIES

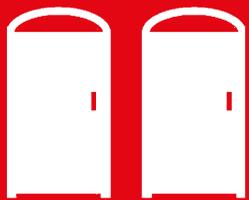
- ➔ Build hydraulic structures (wells and boreholes)
- ➔ Establish wastewater and waste management systems (latrines and incinerators)
- ➔ Organise Social Mediation in hygiene promotion campaigns
- ➔ Conduct rapid assessments of WASH needs in emergencies

2015

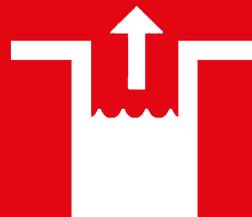
In 2015, our WASH activities were extended, including a new “Community Led Total Sanitation” component in Kantché district: this community approach is aimed at eradicating defecation in the open air. Of 30 villages covered, 25 successfully took on the concept by establishing latrines in each household: while Save the Children does awareness raising, the actual work is carried out by local people, with no financial or other incentives included.



Crédit : Janie Barrett / Save the Children



36 latrines built in the schools we support in Kantché



6 boreholes built to support gardening activities in Maradi
3 wells built and 7 rehabilitated in the villages hosting displaced people in the Diffa region



WASH kits distributed to mothers and children malnourished at their admission and discharge in stabilisation centres in 3 regions

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD (FSL)

Save the Children supports children and their families when resources are needed in the immediate short-term, to respond to acute shocks. Our activities are designed to enable the poorest households to a sufficient and quality diet throughout the year.

2015

In 2015, we maintained our advocacy efforts to integrate the Household Economy Analysis (HEA) as a proxy for food access indicators in the national Early Warning System, and its routine use by humanitarian actors to target the poorest households in the “safety nets” activities, like the World Bank who is considering it for its social protection activities. We participated actively in the working group on food security, technical support group for the 3N initiative, and the focus group on the Nigerien Cash Learning Programme (CALP). Our activities were also coordinated with the Food Security Alliance, bringing together four international NGOs and the World Food Programme (WFP). As part of the Alliance, we worked with the government and other partners to carry out two rounds of sentinel site data collection to feed into the national response plan analysis. In December 2015, we hosted the WCA Regional Save the Children workshop on these matters in December 2015, from which a regional action plan emerged.



Crédit : Nyani Quarmyne / Save the Children

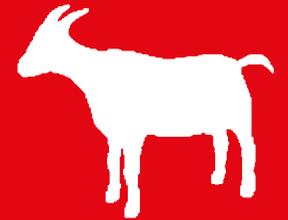
“ I have five children aged between 1 and 7, and my husband’s first wife has seven children. My husband grows millet, and we feed the family whatever he brings back. It is not enough to feed the whole family so I have to dilute it in a lot of water so that everyone can have a little bit to eat. Two months ago Save the Children gave us two goats. It makes a big difference, because before that we didn’t have anything. Before that when I was washing the millet I had to bring the water to my neighbours or throw it away and waste it. Now I give it to the goats to drink. When the goats have young I will be able to milk them, sell the milk and even kill one of the young to eat. Today I am also receiving three chickens. I am going to be able to feed my children eggs and I will be able to cook one of them for special occasions.”, Sahouna

OUR KEY ACTIVITIES

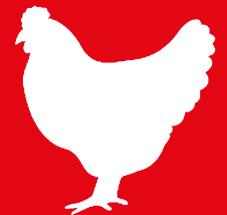
- ➔ Improve households’ food security through cattle distribution, improved seeds and fertilizer, cash transfers and support for farming activities, off-season gardening and food voucher distribution
- ➔ Use smartphones for data collection via Open Data Kit
- ➔ Continuously work with the Nigerien government to improve food security and early warning systems
- ➔ Develop partnerships
- ➔ Promote initiatives for the empowerment of women through the creation of women’s cooperatives
- ➔ Conduct small-scale livestock restocking



8,490 moringa plants distributed in Tessaoua (5 per household)



1,898 goats distributed in Tessaoua (2 per household)



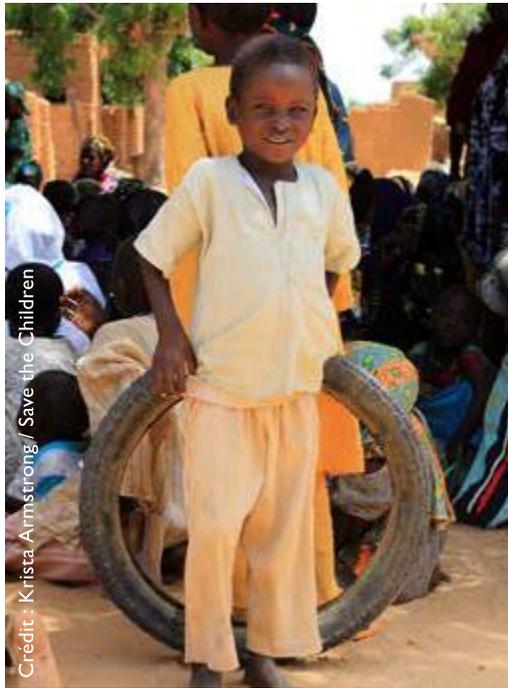
2,547 poultry distributed in Tessaoua (3 per household)



20 training centers equipped in Maradi for functional literacy and marketing training for women transforming niébé

CHILD PROTECTION

Our child protection programme focuses on strengthening the regional and local protection systems. Our projects include technical, material and financial support to child protection services in the Ministries of Justice and Population, Promotion of Women and Child Protection. In Niamey, in the departments of Tessaoua and Kantché, and in the Diffa region, we are working to strengthen capacities to identify and respond to child protection issues at community level.



Credit : Krista Armstrong / Save the Children

2015

2015 was marked by a substantial expansion of our Child Protection team. In Diffa, we strengthened our protection activities to meet the particular needs of the children affected by this crisis.

During this year, we also strengthened the integration of child protection in our programmes, through close collaboration with the education, health and nutrition teams. We set up a multisectoral approach to the prevention of child marriage, by improving children's access to education and health counselling. A pilot project has shown the positive results of this approach and will evolve into a long-term project, in partnership with Oxfam and the Population Council.

We also strengthened our partnerships with the Ministry of Justice, as well as with networks of NGOs working for children's rights through the development of joint activities. In the regions of Niamey, Zinder, Maradi, and Diffa, Save the Children has contributed to the coordination and concerted efforts with state services, health services, schools and training centres, NGOs, community and religious leaders, parents and children, to support the development of local child protection systems.

OUR KEY ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Support child protection systems, recognising the importance and competence of state services, NGOs, communities and families
- ➔ Support the management of child protection cases, with a holistic support of children and their families or guardians
- ➔ Support the psychosocial wellbeing of people and communities affected by crises and shocks, through actions restoring their ability to manage their issues
- ➔ Strengthen the actors' capacity, including children themselves, in terms of child protection, with better access to information on laws, policies and procedures on Nigerien and international human rights standards



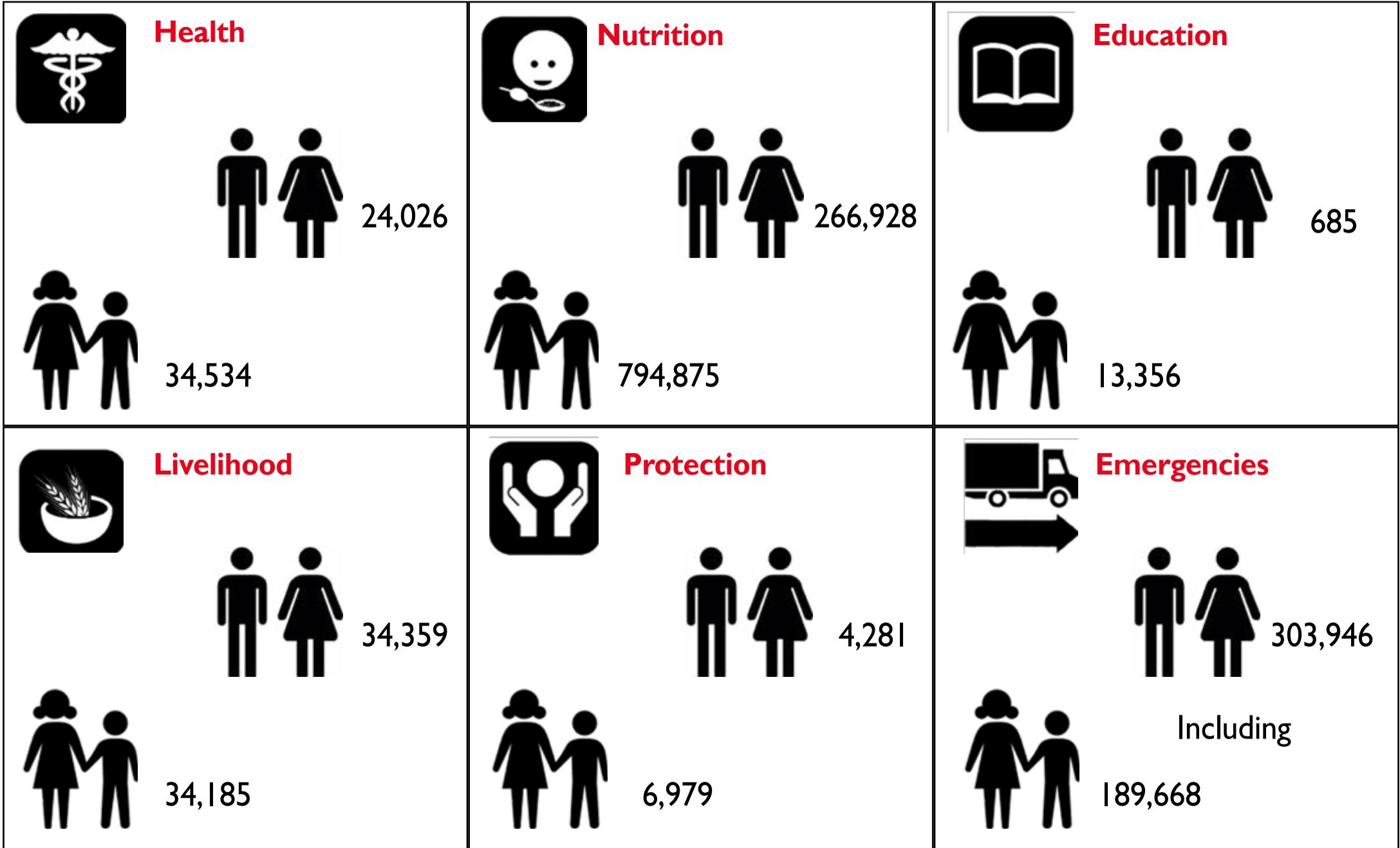
Credit : Daniel Demoustier / Save the Children

“I was accused of stealing a mobile phone that some friends had stolen and sold me, and this led me to court. After I was released, the juvenile judge told me about Save the Children's project, which deals with young people like me. This is how I started my training in welding. From that moment, my and my friends' life changed because we used to do many bad things but now we stopped it. At

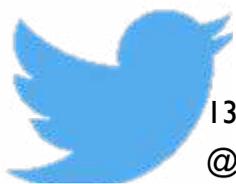
the end of my training I would like to become a professional, take care of myself and be useful to others. I would also like to teach my job to other children, the same way I learned it, so that they can benefit from it too. “,

Oumar

OUR IMPACT IN 2015



Communication



13 november2015
@SaveChildrenNE



19 november 2015
Save the Children, Niger

Advocacy



Human Resources



400 employees

Accountability





Crédit : Nyani Quarmyne / Save the Children

1898 goats and 2547 poultry distributed



Crédit : Nyani Quarmyne / Save the Children

8490 moringa plants and grains distributed



Crédit : Nyani Quarmyne / Save the Children

794 875 children treated for malnutrition



Crédit : Jonathan Hyams / Save the Children

80 latrines built or rehabilitated



Crédit : Jonathan Hyams / Save the Children

528 children integrated in Accelerated Learning Schools



Crédit : Nyani Quarumyne / Save the Children

4990 volunteers trained in prevention and identification of malnutrition



Crédit : Nyani Quarumyne / Save the Children

9792 households benefitted from FSL operations



Save the Children

EDUCATION

As co-leader of the Education Cluster together with UNICEF, and the focal point of literacy Technical and Financial Partners involved in Niger's education sector, we are actively advocating towards traditional and national authorities in favour of girls' education as a means to fight against early marriage.



2015

In 2015, our education programme has grown exponentially with the implementation of new projects like the NORAD project, the Sponsorship project, the programme on Early Child Marriage and Rural Development of WFP. In the Zinder region, an integrated programme was launched after the success of the pilot project on girls' education. Through an integrated approach, we included child protection, health, WASH and resilience components into our programme, thanks to an early warning system controlling the absenteeism of children. Our teams are also working on the adoption of positive discipline instead of corporal punishment and on the establishment of «child governments,» allowing direct involvement of children into the school management.



We work
in 68 schools



More than 350 teachers have benefited from training and educational guidance



Approximately 9,500 elementary students received medical consultations



More than 800 adults participated in literacy classes
663 children participated in our accelerated learning schools

OUR KEY ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Train teachers on Mathematics, French, Sciences, positive discipline, and child protection and advocacy rules, as well as follow up and supervision
- ➔ Support the integration of children outside the school system into formal schools, through bridging schools implementation
- ➔ Develop reading improvement programmes, through the literacy boost
- ➔ Develop early childhood education programmes
- ➔ Distribute school kits
- ➔ Provide literacy class to parents
- ➔ Encourage the participation of children, through the establishment of school governments
- ➔ Develop school gardens, for moringa production
- ➔ Build and rehabilitate latrines and set up water points and hand washing systems
- ➔ Provide support to the Ministry of Education services, through vehicles (motorcycles) and hardware
- ➔ Develop risk management plans in the schools



“When I was in 1st grade I got sick for two months so I was expelled. After that, I stayed home to help with housework. Last year, my village's chief told my parents about Save the Children's accelerated learning schools. I was very happy to go back to school and when I grow up I want to become a teacher.” Shamsia, 12

OUR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN DIFFA

The situation continues to worsen in Diffa, with more than 319,000 people displaced after they fled violence from armed groups. This means that one person out of two has been displaced in the region. Unicef estimates that 60% of the displaced are children. Uninterrupted and timely assistance



over the next few months is vital to meet the needs of the to meet the needs of the 460,000 people already in need of humanitarian aid due to previous attacks in these vulnerable areas.

Benefitting from our presence since 2009 in the region, we were able to respond to the emergency in Diffa since its onset in 2013. We gradually expanded the scope of our programmes to meet the growing needs in the sectors of health and nutrition, water and sanitation, protection and food security of local populations, of Nigerian refugees and of Nigeriens returnees, who are fleeing the violence in Northern Nigeria.

2015

In 2015, the situation in Diffa deeply deteriorated, with the first insurgent attacks on Nigerien territory in February 2015. As a result we increased our response to address the growing number of displaced people, including internally displaced people, fleeing violence. We also had to adapt our response to the deteriorating security situation, as well as restrictions due to the establishment of a state of emergency in the region. That same year we conducted a Real Time Review of our programmes which allowed us to update our strategy for 2016.



3 wells constructed and 7 rehabilitated in villages hosting displaced people



Distribution of non-food items to more than 6,500 people



More than 450 children and their families benefited from individual support to resolve their protection issues



1,227 children vaccinated against measles and meningitis



More than 8,300 people received food vouchers or cash



More than 36,380 children screened for malnutrition



“The fighters attacked our village on the night of Tabaski, around 2 am. When I heard the gunshots, I escaped with my children through the wall. We spent the night in the bush and in the morning we went to the village to see what happened. We found our house was burnt, with all our belongings. We also found my father-in-law’s body in front of his house, and the bodies of all the ones who had been killed. There were 15. The attackers also badly injured two other people and burnt down the whole village: all the houses, all the motorbikes and the cars. After that we decided to leave the village. The women left on foot with the children on carts. Men stayed in the village to bury our dead.”

Fanta, an internally displaced

OUR OPERATIONAL PLATFORM

Human resources

In 2015, the increased number and size of our programmes impacted on the recruitment volume, thereby increasing the number of staff from 336 to 400 employees from January to December. In this regard, the human resources department focused on gender balance (promotion of women staff), people with disabilities, capacity building and the development of career management plans. In order to ensure staff development, we developed a talent and evolution management plan, to ensure the professional evolution of our staff. To this end, we organised workshops and seminars for training and skills development. We continue our efforts to promote woman leadership with a target of 30% female staff within the organisation in the medium term.

Communication

In 2015 was created the communication team to support the country office's communication needs. In November 2015, the team was able to launch Save the Children Niger on social networks, create a monthly newsletter to better share information between our field offices, develop relations with the media and support our advocacy campaign in nutrition.

Advocacy

Our activities to raise the profile of the issues we deal with concentrated on particular dates during the year. The Day of the African Child focused on the theme 'Girls not Brides', World Refugee Day served as an opportunity to remind many of the plight of displaced people in Diffa, and the World Marathon 'Race for Survival' saw awareness-raising events for child survival organised in Tessaoua, and Zinder. At the end of the year, we started to prepare our advocacy campaign in favour of nutrition « Ma vie, mon avenir, la nutrition » (My life, my future, nutrition).

Monitoring and Evaluation

The development of our monitoring and evaluation team (MEAL) was an important part of our activities in 2015. Emphasis was done on the development on a MEAL strategy and the recruitment of new staff by theme, the development of data collection tools, and the creation of a complaint and feedbacks mechanism for our beneficiaries. trained our staff and partners on child safeguarding policies and communities' rights. Communications tools were developed to inform children about their rights to protection, and on child safeguarding policies, to which all staff and partners must comply.

A Green Line (dedicated phone number 3434) was instituted in mid-June as a means for staff or beneficiaries to make comments or complaints about the running of our work. By the end of the year it had received 98 calls, 4 of which were serious and needed follow-up in line with internal procedures. We also

OUR PERSPECTIVES FOR 2016

Sponsorship

The child sponsorship programme in schools started in September 2015, with special training on sponsorship operations and programmes for the new staff recruited. This programme has been launched for a period of ten years and will cover the departments of Aguié, Gazaoua and Tessaoua. 25 schools in the Aguié department are involved in the launching phase. The students of the Initial Course (CI) to CE2 are registered in this programme and are therefore the ambassadors of the rest of the students and their community, who will also benefit from these funds.

This programme aims at guaranteeing quality basic education for all children, including the most deprived. It will also ensure that all children can access early childhood programmes and quality care.

Child Rights Governance

Our Rights Governance strategy is organized around three major breakthroughs that the organisation seeks to achieve as part of its ambitions for 2030.

Survive: our projects, focused on the theme of nutrition, are all designed to reach the appropriation of the management of malnutrition by the Ministry of Health, by establishing a legal environment and an allocation of the adequate budgets.

Learn and be protected: we support the introduction of a law to ban corporal punishment as a method of education in schools and we work towards the prohibition of early marriage in a legal environment

Through an approach based on children rights, this strategy focuses on children's participation in its implementation, and highlights the impor

Campaign “Every Last Child”

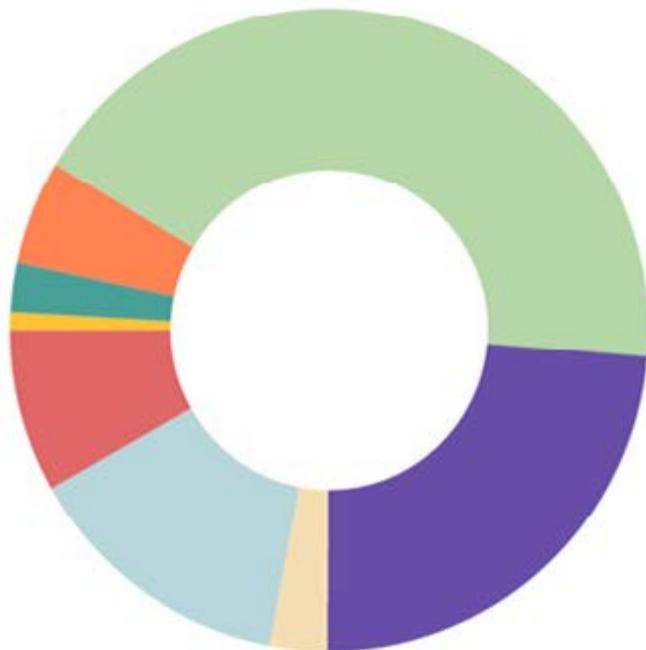
In 2016, Save the Children Niger will launch its priority campaign “Every Last Child” to ensure that no child will be forgotten in our breakthroughs by 2030.

Our breakthroughs in Niger focus on two themes: fight against malnutrition, and protection, in particular through awareness-raising on the risks of early marriage. The campaign will be deployed through advocacy and mobilisation activities, to reach the most marginalized children, until the last one, and will remove obstacles so that they can “survive, learn and be protected.”

FINANCIAL RESULTS

During the financial year 2015, we exceeded forecast with 5% of budget overrun. Most of the budget overrun is to be attributed to the Gifts in Kind, for which there is no financial risks assumed by Save the Children. Besides, these are very difficult to predict as they largely depend on stocks available at donor level, along with actual needs on the ground and contract signature timeframes. This represents a growth of 68% compared to the financial year 2014. It is expected that the budget will remain at the same levels during the financial year 2016.

Niger - Expenses by theme 2015 (USD)



Theme	Actual spend 2015 (\$)
Child Protection/Governance	314,086
Child Rights Governance	510,083
Cross-Thematic	2,858,948
Education	945,906
Health	1,767,462
HIV/AIDS	0
Humanitarian	1,015,334
Livelihoods / Child Poverty	7,870,972
Nutrition	14,214,976
Non-thematic	4,873,584
Total	34,371,354

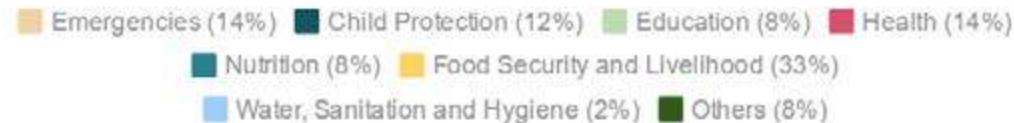
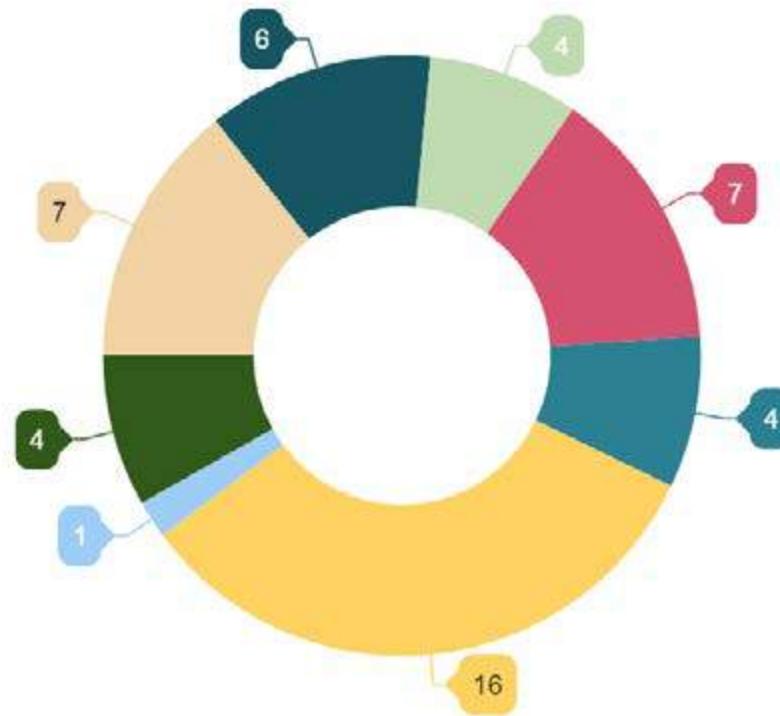
■ Child Protection (1%)
 ■ Education (2%)
 ■ Health (5%)
 ■ Nutrition (43%)
 ■ Livelihoods (24%)
 ■ Emergencies (3%)
 ■ Non-Thematic (14%)
 ■ Cross-Thematic (8%)

THEY SUPPORT US

2015 has been very positive as both the volume of our grants and the number of our donors increased. Our biggest sector remains food security and livelihoods, given its importance in light of the country's context.

The trust given to us by our donors have been continuously strengthened by our results.

2015 Awards per Sector



Gouvernement of Niger



Member countries



Donors



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Coordinator: Awa Ngom Diop

Assistant: Corantine Groccia