The 2017-2021 Economic and Social Development Plan (ESDP) shows the Government’s ambitions for “a Niger reborn for a prosperous people”. It is based on the program of the Renaissance Act 2, on the basis of which the President of the Republic was elected for a second term, it aspires to pursue the triple requirement of modernization, political, economic, and social. ESDP 2017-2021 is marked by the continuation and deepening of the break with the ESDP 2012-2015. This rupture will be further guaranteed by the continuation and deepening of the separation and the revalorization of the private sector in a stable macroeconomic framework.

The overall goal of the 2017-2021 ESDP is “to help build a peaceful, well-governed country with an emerging and sustainable economy, and a society based on the values of equity and sharing the fruits of progress”, its specific objective is “to strengthen the resilience of the economic and social development system”. With regard to the diagnosis of the economic and social situation and the opportunities available to Niger, eight major challenges have been considered:

1. To further guarantee the safety of persons and goods.
2. Strengthen good governance.
3. Ensure the demographic transition.
4. Raise the human capital.
5. Maintain sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
6. Strengthen food and nutrition security.
7. Adapt production systems to climate change.
8. Promote the change of behaviors and mentalities.

To meet these challenges, five (5) strategic axes have been defined:

• **Axis 1:** Cultural Renaissance
  - **Aims:** To create favorable conditions for the necessary changes and changes in behavior that the country needs to ensure sustainable development.

• **Axis 2:** Social Development and the Demographic Transition
  - **Aims:** To start the demographic transition, as evidenced by the ambitious target of the population growth rate set by the Government at 3.06% for 2021. This will be done through a significant improvement in human capital by emphasizing the quality of the education system.

• **Axis 3:** Accelerating Economic Growth
  - **Aims:** To strengthen the underlying conditions of development: security, good political administration, legal, judicial and local governance. Emphasis will be placed on the efficiency of the public administration and the institutions as well as the relationship between security and development.

• **Axis 4:** Improving Governance, Peace and Security
  - **Aims:** To strengthen the underlying conditions of development: security, good political administration, legal, judicial and local governance. Emphasis will be placed on the efficiency of the public administration and the institutions as well as the relationship between security and development.

• **Axis 5:** Environmental Management
  - **Aims:** To maintain sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

The macroeconomic framework of the 2017-2021 ESDP is based on a baseline scenario and an optimistic scenario. For the baseline scenario, this framework is based on the Economic and Financial Program concluded with the IMF. Under the baseline scenario, economic growth will increase from 5% in 2016 to 6.2% in 2021 with an average of 5.9% between 2017 and 2021, the tax ratio to GDP will be 18.2% in 2021 compared with 13.6% in 2016 with an average of 16.5% over the ESDP period; the overall balance including grants will increase from -6.1% in 2016 to -0.9% in 2021 and the incidence of poverty will be 37.3% in 2021 compared with 39.9% in 2016.

The optimistic scenario, showing the ambitions of the Renaissance Act 2 program, forecasts an average growth of 7.3% over the period instead of 5.9% in the baseline scenario, and a 31.3% incidence of poverty in 2021 instead of 37.9% in basic scenario. On the basis of this optimistic scenario, the total cost of the 2017-2021 ESDP is estimated at FCFA 15,018.2 billion, with $ 3,305.7 billion as public expenditures and $ 5,712.5 billion in private investment. Public expenditure will be funded at 5,523.9 billion of internal resources and 3,712.5 billion of external resources.

To implement the 2017-2021 ESDP, a Priority Action Plan (PAP) of FCFA 5,319 022 billion (€ 8.108 billion) has been developed. The selection criteria for the choice of operations include the ability to influence short and medium-term social and economic change in terms of poverty reduction and job creation.

The 2017-2021 ESDP implementation mechanism is designed to meet several objectives including efficiency, robustness and flexibility. It is built on three separate but interdependent instruments. These are the implementation, monitoring-evaluation and coordination mechanisms.

Regarding particularly the coordination mechanism of ESDP 2017-2021, it provides to the variety of stakeholders the opportunity to monitor, the achievements of the ESDP, but also to decide on the orientations and measures to be taken to ensure the achievement of the planned results.

To this end, the coordination mechanism is made up of several structures, organized into three categories: i) steering committee and policies orientation ii) technical committees and iii) coordination committees. The different coordination structures will meet regularly to provide guidance and assess the results of ESDP implementation.

In order to ensure better implementation of the 2017-2021 ESDP, the success factors and the mitigation measures have been defined.