

REPUBLIC OF NIGER



Fraternity - Work - Progress

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH STRATEGY (SDIGS) NIGER 2035

A COUNTRY AND A PROSPEROUS PEOPLE

SUMMARY

TRANSLATED AND PRINTED WITH THE SUPPORT



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Vision	A united, democratic, and modern country that is peaceful, prosperous, and proud of its cultural values, underpinned by a sustainable, ethical, fair, and balanced development in an Africa marked by unity and solidarity	
Slogan	A Prosperous Country and People	
Development Objective	Build a well-governed and peaceful country and an emerging economy based on a fair sharing of the fruits of progress	
Priorities	Strategic Axes	Specific objectives
	· Security of the territory	· Ensure the safety of persons and property across the national territory and its borders
	· Development of a dynamic private sector that is a creator and provider of jobs	· Develop a dynamic private sector that is a creator and provider of jobs
	· Demographic transition	· Control the levers of demographic growth
	· Revitalization and Modernization of the rural areas	· Sustainably increase agricultural production and productivity
	· Human capital Development	· Increase t human capital performance
· Modernization of government institutions	· Ensure that citizens enjoy quality public services	

7.5. DEVELOPMENT OF A DYNAMIC PRIVATE SECTOR

If Niger wants to succeed by 2035, diversification of its economy and the absorption of young people in the labor market is essential, making it necessary in turn for the private sector to progressively take over the baton from the extensive agriculture and livestock sectors. However, the reforms necessary to promote private sector development are highly depending upon the public authorities. For real change to take place in the private sector, interventions should focus on the following key orientations:

Strategic pillar	Strategic directions
Developing a dynamic private sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further improve the legal framework of the business environment • Improve the availability and quality of basic infrastructure • Make regional integration an effective part of economic planning • Develop services and the craft industry in urban and rural areas

7.6. DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION

The demographic transition necessarily involves simultaneous control of fertility and mortality rates. To achieve this objective, the following directions are defined:

Strategic pillar	Strategic directions
Demographic transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control fertility • Reduce mortality • Change pro-birth practices • Develop interlinkage between the concepts of population and development

VIII. RISKS

Success in the implementation of such a scenario assumes control of the risks arising from political and institutional instability, natural disasters, and the international economic situation.

IX. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS

The implementation modalities of the SDIGS are based upon the need to identify all key actors in the chain of results at the continental, regional, and national levels. It also sets out the various roles and responsibilities of these actors, through implementation and monitoring and evaluation. Implementation of SDIGS Niger 2035 will be essentially based upon National Development Plans as well as strategic sectoral, regional, and local documents. In fact, the SDIGS operationalization will be done through various National Development Plans, the first of which is the ESDP 2017–2021.

X. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The system will provide useful information on both internal and external plans. It will represent the main management tool for public sector officials to demonstrate the results achieved, namely: the state of progress, bottlenecks, and public services performance of. The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mechanism will also provide credible information on the concrete results of the government's actions, the use of public resources, and user satisfaction levels with public services, with regard to improvements to citizens' living conditions. The M&E mechanism of SDIGS Niger 2035 must allow for: (i) monitoring of results (effects); (ii) mid-term and final evaluations; (iii) assessment of impacts of public policies; and (iv) drafting of strategic monitoring reports. Niger 2035 will be subject to a mid-term evaluation in 2025, in view of a possible revision. The final evaluation will take place at the completion of the SDIGS' implementation.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH STRATEGY

I. FOREWORD

Through the Sustainable Development Inclusive Growth Strategy (SDIGS), Niger has formulated its long-term strategic vision for the development of the Nigerien society. This vision must serve as a frame of reference for all the government's strategies and actions in accordance with the November 25, 2010 Constitution, which stipulates in its article 146 paragraph 1 that "the action of the State in the field of economic and social development policies is supported by a strategic vision."

SDIGS Niger 2035 marks a rupture with previous development strategies in both design and implementation. It proposes to go beyond immediate and emergency situations and to contribute to building a future around a collective plan for a people united by shared values and ambitions.

Thus, SDIGS constitutes the trajectory of a desired future, resting on strategic directions that are widely shared and accessible. The components of this long-term strategy are upheld by the people of Niger and their leaders at all levels.

This summary highlights the following elements: (i) the preparation process of the Niger SDIGS 2035 document; (ii) the development challenges faced by the country; (iii) the Horizon 2035 vision; (iv) development objectives, strategic outcomes, strategic pillars, and risks; and (v) mechanisms for implementation and for monitoring and evaluation.

II. FORMULATION OF SDIGS NIGER 2035

The approach to formulate the Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth Strategy (SDIGS Niger 2035) involved four (4) steps: (i) formulation of the basis for a retrospective and a prospective analysis; (ii) strategic and prospective analysis of key development dynamics; (iii) formulation of development scenarios for Horizon 2035; and (iv) the formulation of the long-term strategic vision and directions.

To these four steps is added a fifth devoted to the deployment and operationalization of the vision and long-term strategic orientations in Niger's short and medium-term planning documents. The SDIGS Niger 2035 document was formulated through a process that extensively mobilized the various components of the nation.

III. LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

The diagnostic analysis highlighted five plus one (5+1) development challenges in Niger. These are:

1. Security of the territory;
2. Modernization of the State;
3. Modernization and revitalization of the rural sector;
4. Development of human capital;
5. Development of a dynamic private sector; and
6. Demographic transition.

These six (6) challenges are seen as an interdependent set, where intervention in each area enhances progress in all other areas. When measures of this type are implemented simultaneously and quickly, they can trigger a virtuous cycle of dynamics that can bring gains to 2035.

The interactions between these challenges are the key to the success of any breakthrough scenario. Various challenges make Niger an exceptionally fragile country. These challenges make Niger an exceptionally fragile country. Niger is therefore confronted with a fundamental choice for the realization of its vision by 2035.

Seeking to address these challenges in isolation or sequentially, or delaying the implementation of some of them, exposes the country to the risk of exacerbating problems and making this «break» even more difficult.

IV. VISION

The people of Niger have formulated and affirmed the future they dream of by 2035, through a clear vision of building a «united, democratic and modern, peaceful, prosperous and cultural country, underpinned by sustainable, ethical, equitable and balanced development in an Africa united in solidarity».

V. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

The development objective for Niger and all its people, is to «build a well-governed and peaceful country and an emerging economy based on the fair sharing of the fruits of progress.»

VI. STRATEGIC RESULTS

The main strategic results of SDIGS Niger 2035 are:

1. Internal security of the country and its borders is assured;
2. Government is modernized;
3. The level of human capital is significantly enhanced;
4. Rural sector is radically transformed;
5. Private sector is competitive;
6. Demographic transition is effective.

VII. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Six (6) strategic axes were selected.

7.1. SECURITY OF THE TERRITORY

Since there can be no development without security, it is impossible to envisage sustainable security without economic and social development. Therefore, any defense and security policy will be vain if not accompanied by extensive programs of action designed to boost the dynamism of the economy and overcome its constraints. Within this framework, strategic directions in the area of defense and security are as follows:

Strategic pillar	Strategic directions
Security of the territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the strategic framework of defense and security • Strengthen the essential functions of the State, including diplomacy, justice, and territorial administration • Strengthen the capacity of the Defense and Security Forces (FDS), including personnel, equipment, training, and infrastructure • Preventing conflicts and consolidating peace • Mutualize military spending and strengthen military and security cooperation

7.2. MODERNIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

The transformation of an ineffective administration into a competent development-oriented administration is at the heart of a comprehensive rupture strategy. Without such a transformation of its administration, the government will simply not possess the tools that would allow it to pursue the proposed reform program.

International experience teaches that the reform of an ineffective State apparatus entails long-term efforts that must combine several simultaneous approaches:

Strategic pillar	Strategic directions
Modernization of the government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the civil service more efficient • Strengthen key functions within the overall administration • Transform ministries into institutions of excellence • Rationalize State structures • Change behaviors in the administration

7.3. DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN CAPITAL

Niger cannot hope to achieve the desired levels of rapid, sustained, and inclusive growth without significantly raising the health and education level of its people. This objective is both essential and realistic and will be achieved through:

Strategic pillar	Strategic directions
Development of human capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of basic education • Strengthen and improve literacy • Reorient secondary and higher education toward professional, technical, and scientific sectors • Raise the level of education of those working in the informal sector • Improve the healthcare system • Ensure access to drinking water, sanitation, and a decent standard of living

7.4. MODERNIZATION AND REVITALIZATION OF THE RURAL WORLD

The analyses conducted as part of the framework of the 3N Initiative and in preparation for the National Agricultural Investment Program (PNIA), indicate that only an average annual agricultural growth rate, equal or greater than 6% over the 2015–2035 period, will make it possible to achieve the development objectives in terms of economic growth and structural transformation, as well as reducing under-employment and poverty.

Rural poverty should fall from 62% in 2015 to about 35% in 2035. The absolute number of the rural poor is expected to stabilize at its 2015 level (between 9 and 10 million). A more productive agricultural sector should also favor the emergence of a dynamic rural economy, capable of providing decent jobs to youth in rural areas and curb rural exodus.

Finally, increase in farming incomes and diversification of the rural economy should reduce the vulnerability of rural households to climate change and natural disasters. This growth must allow the achievement of the «zero hunger» goal. The following orientations have been defined to achieve this goal of transforming the rural world:

Strategic pillar	Strategic directions
Modernization and revitalization of the rural world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalize traditional rain-fed farming • Continue and accelerate investments in irrigation • Restructure and modernize livestock rearing systems • Sustainably manage the environment, natural resources and energy • Develop innovative decentralized approaches in rural areas • Ensure a harmonious and integrated land management; • Continue the reforms already initiated in term of targeted training, legal and regulatory measures, and massive investments in public goods