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PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and intercountry programmes and projects

THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR THE NIGER, 1983-1986

Extension requested for the period January 1987-June 1988

<u>Programme period</u>	<u>IPF for the extension period</u>
January 1987-June 1988	\$10 952 000

I. JUSTIFICATION

The third country programme for the Niger (DP/CP/NER/3) ended on December 1986. A new five-year development plan covering the period from 1987 to 1991 is under preparation by the Niger Government, which has already embarked on a process of review and national consultation within its institutions for popular participation. The plan will be concerned with medium-term economic revival, and will supplement the financial recovery and structural readjustment measures introduced in the past few years. The plan will be submitted to a round table of donors in 1987. It is hoped that the programming of the fourth-cycle indicative planning figure (IPF) for the fourth Niger country programme can be synchronized with the finalization of the five-year development plan and the results of the round table. If so, the new country programme cannot be submitted to the UNDP Governing Council until June 1988. This schedule makes it necessary to extend the current programme from January 1987 to June 1988.

II. OBJECTIVES

2. The objectives of the programme remain valid and virtually unchanged: the promotion of food self-sufficiency; water management and exploitation; environmental development and protection, including action to combat desertification; the strengthening of the country's administrative infrastructure and capacity for planning and economic management; diversification of the economic base; and the development of human resources.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

A. General development

3. UNDP activity in this sector is aimed at enhancing national planning, economic management and administrative capacity.

Assistance with planning, economic forecasting and preparation for the round table (NER/85/002)

4. This project, which is being carried out by UNDP and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD), is intended to refine macroeconomic tools, encourage the progressive adoption of these tools by Niger officials and institute a medium- and long-term review of development strategy and how to present the Government's economic and social policy to a round table of donors. The project, a follow-up to "Assistance for economic forecasting, programming and training" (NER/82/013) (UNDP/DTCD), began in 1985. It also provides technical backstopping for the preparation of the five-year development plan for 1987-1991. Total funding for 1986-1988: \$2,242,000.

Assistance for the preparation of the donor conference (NER/82/016)

5. This project provides consultancy, interpretation and administrative support services with resources from the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, in association with project NER/85/002. Funding for 1986-1987: \$223,105.

Training fellowships (NER/82/017)

6. This Government-executed project funds short courses of training abroad and attendance at a number of seminars and conferences. The funding (\$125,000 for 1984-1987) currently comes from the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries.

United Nations Volunteers (UNV) services (NER/84/003)

7. To support the Government in its development efforts through the assistance technical field workers, this UNV project will continue to provide the Niger with volunteers qualified in a number of priority domains and sectors, including health education, statistics, computer technology, accounting and water management. Funding for 1985-1988: \$415,896.

Programme support (NER/81/005)

8. This project will continue to provide technical support for the fourth-cycle programming process. Funding for 1981-1987: \$174,000.

B. Natural resourcesSoil mapping (NER/81/018)

9. In the pursuit of food self-sufficiency, this project, executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), will continue to support the Government with technical assistance from one United Nations volunteer. Funding for 1982-1988: \$1,085,000.

Exploitation of groundwater in rural areas (NER/83/002)

10. Groundwater management and exploitation will be continued under this DTCD project, which will complete a programme of borehole drilling, water-supply infrastructure installation and rural development activities (continuing field activities under this project will be supported by a United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) project as of July 1987). Funding for 1984-1987: \$2,141,000; joint funding of \$1,714,000 from UNICEF.

Groundwater planning, development and management in rural areas (NER/86/001)

11. Support for the decentralization of the Ministry of Waterworks and the Environment will continue under this new UNDP/DTCD project. The project will also support the introduction and use of pumping equipment and the indigenization of the planning process within the Ministry of Waterworks and the Environment. It also provides for the definition of a policy on groundwater exploitation and management in order to make the facilities installed economically viable, keep them in working order and transfer responsibility to the intended beneficiaries. Funding for 1987-1989: \$2,700,000.

Electromagnetic survey

12. Under the heading of economic diversification (through the discovery and development of new mineral resources) this new UNDP/DTCD project is intended to determine the abundance of minerals in the Liptako region and identify deposits. It will also support the quest for technical self-sufficiency in the Department of Geological and Mining Research. Funding for 1987-1989: \$863,000.

C. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

13. All the projects in this sector are intended to further the gradual attainment of food self-sufficiency.

Development of the agricultural statistics service (NER/70/001)

14. Operationally speaking, this UNDP/FAO project broadly came to an end in 1984, but it still covers the services of one statistician and supports on-the-spot training for technical staff and statistics clerks. Funding for 1979-1987: \$1,893,000.

Development of the co-operative framework in Bilma (NER/81/007)

15. This project, the aim of which is to enable the country to manage the regional trade system better and establish a marketing network, is nearing completion with continuing support from the UNV programme. Funding for 1982-1987: \$273,000. The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) is also involved, with a scheme to build shops and finance vehicles to transport food between Bilma and Agadez, through project NER/80/C02, "Integrated development of the Bilma arrondissement" (UNCDF/Niger Co-operative Union), with funding of \$1,603,000 for 1982-1987.

Assistance to the stock-breeding school (NER/81/011)

16. This UNDP/FAO project is concerned with the training of technical stock-breeding workers. UNDP funds the technical assistance segment and provides logistical support with a team of experts and United Nations volunteers. This project is expected to go on under the next country programme so that training can continue to be offered with an accent on the technical and socio-economic problems of commercial animal rearing. Funding for 1982-1987: \$1,846,000.

Assistance for the Kollo Practical Institute for Rural Development (NER/81/015)

17. The purpose of this UNDP/FAO project is to complete the expansion of the Practical Institute for Rural Development in Kollo, giving it a total capacity of 450 pupils and an annual throughput of 100 technical workers and 50 technicians. Another aim of the project is reform of the curriculum and teaching methods in order to provide more practical training and more readily employable graduates at the end of the course. There are plans for a third phase, under the next country programme, to permit the scheme to be gradually taken over by Niger staff. Funding for 1982-1987: \$3,040,000.

Central Stock-breeding Laboratory (NER/81/019)

18. The aim of this UNDP/FAO project was to create an efficient operational tool for the maintenance of health and hygiene standards, in order to permit the livestock development plan to proceed smoothly. Funding for 1982-1988: \$175,000. Support from UNCDF was used to purchase specialist equipment through project NER/82/C01, "Strengthening of the Niamey Central Stock-breeding Laboratory" (funding for 1983-1987: \$1,010,000), which is intended to enhance the capacity of the Laboratory to provide the requisite level of coverage for the development of stock-breeding through the manufacture of adequate, regular supplies of vaccine at modest cost for annual vaccination campaigns against animal diseases, and provide more satisfactory veterinary diagnostic services through the creation of regional branches.

Rural development in the N'Guigmi region (NER/86/003)

19. The aim of this UNDP/FAO project is to increase farm output (food, fruit and vegetables), raise the cash incomes of rural smallholders and enhance the ability of rural growers to manage their own affairs and take charge of their own development. Funding for 1986-1990: \$1,200,000. The project is co-funded by UNCDF under project NER/85/CO1, "Rural development in the N'Guigmi region": funding for 1986-1989: \$1,873,957.

20. Under the heading of environmental development and protection and action to combat desertification, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) is financing four projects:

(a) The Tahoua green belt (UNSO/NER/82/SO2) (\$480,335 for 1982-1987)

(b) Expansion of the Niamey green belt (UNSO/NER/85/XO1) (\$400,000 for 1986-1987) The aim of these two projects, which are being carried out by UNSO and the Niger Government, is to protect and improve the environment around population centres by establishing green belts and increasing firewood resources.

(c) "Operation qao" (UNSO/NER/80/SO2) (\$803,350 for 1982-1987) The objectives of this project, which is being carried out by UNSO and the Government, are to conserve and enhance soil fertility thanks to the protective and natural regenerative powers of qao (a shrub), and to plant 600 hectares of qao with local farmer participation.

(d) Action to combat sand accumulation in palm plantations (UNSO/NER/81/SO2) (\$1,477,400 for 1984-1988) The purpose of this project is to protect and restore eight large palm plantations in the Bilma region.

D. Industry

Assistance to the Office for the Promotion of Niger Businesses (NER/85/007)

21. Diversification of the country's economic base through structural improvement and a more effective Office for the Promotion of Niger Businesses (OPEN) is the aim of this project by UNDP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), which will support a programme to develop small- and medium-sized businesses in the various regions of the country. Funding for 1986-1989: \$1,376,000.

Assistance in the semi-industrial production of salt (SI/NER/85/801)

22. Under the same heading, this project seeks to solve technical problems in the extraction of salt, provide training and solar evaporators and improve the quality and increase the quantity of salt produced. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) is interested in following up this activity in order to promote women's participation in salt production. Funding for 1985-1986, from UNIDO resources: \$70,000.

Technical studies on the production of spongy iron from iron ore and coal
(SI/NER/85/802)

23. Under this project, a study tour to India is scheduled for 1987, following the technical analysis of iron ore and coal samples. Funding for 1986-1987, from UNIDO resources: \$58,200.

Study of the possibility of setting up a small-scale rural sugar factory
(XP/NER/86/125)

24. This project will consider the feasibility of using locally raised sugar-cane for sugar production. Funding for 1987, from UNIDO resources: \$15,500.

Development of agro-industry for food production (RP/NER/85/601)

25. As part of the effort to achieve self-sufficiency in food, pilot facilities have been set up for the processing of cassava and onions. Equipment is to be installed in 1987. A new project is planned for tomato processing. Funding for 1986-1987, from UNIDO resources: \$351,000.

Agricultural mechanization (UNSO/NER/83/X03)

26. This UNSO/FAO project also deals with food self-sufficiency and involves the testing and manufacture of equipment adapted for farm use and the training and retraining of farmers. Funding for 1984-1987: \$2,098,000.

E. Transport and communications

27. Projects in this sector are aimed at diversifying the country's economic base through the development of road and air transport infrastructure. The implementation of a fellowship programme will mark the completion of the UNDP/International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) project for the development of civil aviation (NER/80/005). Funding for 1982-1987: \$805,487.

F. Population

Census (NER/86/PO1)

28. In the area of strengthening the institutional infrastructure for monitoring population questions, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and UNDP are providing financing for this project in the amounts of \$855,242 and \$3,350,000 respectively for the period 1986-1990. The project is also being co-financed by the European Development Fund (EDF) (approximately 100 million CFA francs); France (CFAF 75 million); and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (\$310,000). The census will provide planners and policy makers with national socio-economic and demographic data from which numerous indicators can be established. This will permit a better assessment of the population's needs and lead to better formulated development plans and programmes.

Improvements in the registration and compilation of vital statistics (NER/80/PO2)

29. This UNFPA/DTCDC project also involves a nationwide reform of the vital statistics registration system.

Population studies for development (NER/83/PO1)

30. This project focuses on the development of a population plan of action and is providing assistance in the identification of elements of a population policy and the drafting of a family code. Financing for 1983-1987: \$521,813.

G. Human settlements

Improvement of living conditions and human settlements in the urban environment (NER/81/010)

31. Falling under the theme of development in the Sahelian region, this project has as its objective the implementation of pilot projects for the testing and application of structures and methods suitable for use in the restoration of the traditional quarters of the town of Niamey and the development of reclaimed areas. Funding for 1985-1987: \$308,000.

H. Health

Maternal and child health and family planning (NER/77/PO1)

32. Under the theme of human resources development, UNFPA is financing this UNFPA/World Health Organization (WHO) project to train health workers and sensitize and educate the population with regard to health and family planning questions. Funding for 1984-1987: \$1,369,922.

I. Employment

Assistance to the National Management Training Centre (NER/84/001)

33. The objective of this UNDP/International Labour Organisation (ILO) project is the gradual establishment of a national body to provide advanced training in various areas of management through the training of national leaders, the creation of an instructional unit, the formulation of evaluation criteria and the establishment of an advisory unit. Funding for 1984-1987: \$1,417,000.

Assistance in implementing a special labour-intensive public works programme (NER/85/003)

34. This UNDP/ILO project is intended to generate continuing sources of employment and income and improve the social welfare of the poorest segments of the population, who will be paid directly during the construction phase of the project

and whose prospects for higher income will be increased. Popular involvement and self-help in the construction, maintenance and utilization of new infrastructure will be promoted. Funding for 1986-1987: \$550,000.

J. Science and technology

Strengthening of agrometeorological and hydrological services in the Sahel countries (NER/82/015)

35. In the area of water management, this project, which is the national component of the agro-hydro-meteorological services network (AGRHYMET), is aimed at the dissemination of agrometeorological data and information for everyday use by the rural population. The continuation of this project under a third phase is being studied in the context of the overall AGRHYMET programme.

IV. RECOMMENDATION BY THE ADMINISTRATOR

36. The Administrator recommends that the Governing Council approve the extension of the third country programme for the Niger.

Annex

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

I. ACTUAL RESOURCES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR PROGRAMMING

A. UNDP-administered sources

	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Third-cycle IPF balance	765 000	
IPF for January 1987-June 1988	10 187 000	
Subtotal IPF		10 952 000
Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries	398 000	
Special programme resources	-	-
Government cost-sharing	-	-
Third-party cost-sharing	-	-
Operational funds under the authority of the Administrator (UNSO, UNCDF, UNFPA)	2 775 000	
Special UNDP/USA trust fund for Africa	200 000	
Subtotal, UNDP non-IPF funds		3 373 000

B. Other sources

Funds from other United Nations agencies or organizations firmly committed as a result of the country programme exercise ILO - WFP - UNICEF	8 871 000	
Parallel financing from non-United Nations sources	7 848 000	
Subtotal, other sources		<u>16 719 000</u>
TOTAL ACTUAL RESOURCES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR PROGRAMMING		<u><u>31 044 000</u></u>

II. USE OF RESOURCES

A. Programmed (all objectives)

Ongoing projects	6 128 000	
New project proposals	18 080 000	
Programmed reserve		
Subtotal, programmed resources		24 208 000
Unprogrammed reserve <u>a/</u>		<u>6 836 000</u>
TOTAL USE OF RESOURCES		<u><u>31 044 000</u></u>

a/ See para. 1.

