



# Country Pastoralism and Small-Scale Farming Profile - Niger



November 2022

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Country Pastoralism and Small-Scale Farming Profile development exercise primary objective was to identify the current status of the governance landscape for pastoralist and small-scale farming in Niger.

The SLGA program supports the implementation of the AU Agenda on Land, in addition the program is part of the BMZ unique initiative ‘One World, No Hunger. This programme will have immense contribution to the initiative under the Action Area “promoting responsible land use and improving access to land”. The SLGA aims to strengthen the human and institutional capacities required to realise sustainable land policies that recognise the rights of marginalised groups such as small scale farmers, pastoralists, youths and women across Africa. One of the main areas of action for SLGA is the establishment and coordination of the Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA) under the leadership of the ALPC (African Land Policy Centre).

This study generated evidence to inform SLGA’s capacity to provide advisory support on such issues to decision makers and other stakeholders. This information will contribute to the body of literature available on the Land Governance Agenda of the AU to improve land governance in Africa.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS .....	ii
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS .....	iii
1. COUNTRY AND MACROECONOMICS .....	1
General data .....	1
Socio-economic indicators .....	1
Agriculture and livestock .....	1
2. SMALL-SCALE AGRICULTURE .....	2
General characteristics .....	2
Role and place of women and young people .....	2
Assessment of available literature on small-scale agriculture .....	2
Public policy for small-scale agriculture .....	3
Access to land and land governance .....	3
Climate change and small-scale agriculture .....	4
International or regional cooperation for small-scale agriculture .....	4
3. PASTORALISM .....	5
General characteristics .....	5
Role and place of women and young people .....	5
Assessment of the available literature on pastoralism .....	5
Public policies in favour of pastoralism .....	6
Pastoralism and rangeland management .....	6
Climate change and pastoralism .....	7
International or regional cooperation in favour of pastoralism .....	7
4. MAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....	8
REFERENCES .....	9

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AFD</b>	: French Development Agency
<b>CNEDD</b>	: National Environment Council for Sustainable Development
<b>ECOWAS</b>	: Economic Community of West African States
<b>EU</b>	: European Union
<b>FAO</b>	: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FIDA</b>	: International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>FISAN</b>	: Fonds d'Investissement pour la Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle
<b>GDP</b>	: Gross Domestic Product
<b>I3N</b>	: Initiative les Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens
<b>MA</b>	: Ministry of Agriculture
<b>MCC</b>	: Millennium Challenge Corporation
<b>MPATDC</b>	: Ministry of Planning, Land Management and Community Development
<b>NSI</b>	: National Institute of Statistics
<b>PASEC</b>	: Project to Support Climate-Sensitive Agriculture (Projet d'Appui à l'Agriculture Sensible aux Risques Climatiques)
<b>PDES</b>	: Economic and Social Development Plan
<b>NCCP</b>	: National Climate Change Policy
<b>NGP</b>	: National Gender Policy
<b>PRAPS</b>	: Projet Régional d'Appui au Pastoralisme au Sahel
<b>ProDAF</b>	: Programme for the Development of Family Farming
<b>RECA</b>	: National Network of Chambers of Agriculture of Niger
<b>SDDEL</b>	: Sustainable Livestock Development Strategy
<b>SDDCI</b>	: Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth Strategy
<b>UEMOA</b>	: West African Economic and Monetary Union
<b>USAID</b>	: United States Agency for International Development is the agency of the United States government
<b>WB</b>	: World Bank
<b>WFP</b>	: World Food Programme

# 1. COUNTRY AND MACROECONOMICS

## General data

With an area of 1267,000 km<sup>2</sup>, Niger is a landlocked country in West Africa. The country lies between 11°37' and 23°33' North latitude, and in longitude between 0°06' and 16° East of the prime meridian. It is bordered to the north by Algeria and Libya, to the east by Chad, to the south by Nigeria and Benin and to the west by Burkina Faso and Mali.



Niger's climate is continental Sahelian. The country is subdivided into four climatic zones: (i) the Sudanian zone which receives more than 600 mm of rainfall, (ii) the Sahelo-Sudanian and Sahelian zone with rainfall ranging from 300 to 600 mm, (iii) the Sahelo-Saharan zone with rainfall between 100 and 300 mm, (iv) the Saharan desert zone with less than 100 mm of rainfall, representing respectively about 1%, 10%, 12% and 77% of the total area of the territory (CNEDD, 2020).

With an annual growth rate of 3.9%, Niger's population is approximately 22 million (Institut National de la Statistique, 2020). This population, which is mostly rural (84% of the population), is characterised by its extreme youth (more than 60% of the population is under 15 years old) and the slight predominance of women (52% of women).

## Socio-economic indicators

The Nigerien economy is characterised by the predominance of the primary and tertiary sectors. With 42.9% of GDP, the primary sector is the engine of the economy (INS, 2016). The secondary sector accounts for 15% of GDP. The tertiary sector contributes 36.1% of GDP. In 2021, the GDP is 14.95 billion (current US\$) and 594.9 (current US\$) per capita (World Bank, 2021). However, Niger is among the least developed countries with a very low human development index. People living below the poverty line represent 59% of the population (MPATDC, 2012). The overall unemployment rate was 17 percent with a higher incidence among women and youth at 23.7 percent (INS, 2016). About 20 percent of the population is food insecure. Each year, more than 40 percent of children suffer from chronic malnutrition (HC I3N, 2021). In this context, food security, nutrition and sustainable agricultural development are major priorities for Niger. Niger has a worrying security situation.

## Agriculture and livestock

The agricultural sector employs more than 80% of the working population and contributes about 37.7% of the Gross Domestic Product. Between 2017 and 2019, the agricultural sector added about US\$46 billion per year to the national economy (value added to GDP), representing 36% of GDP (INS, 2020). In this sector, Niger has significant potential, notably agricultural land representing 19 million hectares and suitable for rain-fed agriculture (cereals and cash crops) and irrigated agriculture (mainly cash crops). The potential of irrigable land is estimated at 10,942,560 ha (MA, 2021). Pastoral land is close to 62 million hectares, or 45% of the territory, with a diversified livestock population estimated at 52,693,034 head, all species combined, or 20,876,240 livestock units (LU) (MA, 2021), distributed among 87% of households. The dominant species are cattle, sheep and goats. In

rainfed farming, food crops (millet, sorghum) dominate and the main cash crops are cowpeas and groundnuts. Under irrigation, the main crops are rice, onions, cabbage, tomatoes and potatoes. The soils are sandy or sandy-clay. Agriculture and livestock farming remain extensive with low performance due to numerous climatic, biological, environmental and socio-economic constraints.

## 2. SMALL-SCALE FARMING

### *General characteristics*

Small-scale agriculture contributes more than 65% to agricultural GDP (INS, 2020). The production system is dominated by cereals (millet, sorghum, rice) and cash crops (cowpeas, groundnuts and vegetable crops). The total area sown to cereals was 10.64 million hectares in 2019. Among cereals, millet and sorghum account for 61.07% and 35.43% of production in 2019 respectively. The average yield is 548 kg/ha for millet and 416 kg/ha for cowpea (INS, 2020). In rainfed agriculture, crops are generally produced in association (millet+niébé; millet+sorghum).

In contrast, irrigated farming is typically pure (INS, 2020). The areas farmed by households are small, generally less than 2 ha.

### *Role and place of women and young people*

In Niger, women have traditionally played a central role in local agricultural activities and food production. They represent 70 percent of the country's agricultural labour force (MA, 2015). In both rainfed and irrigated agriculture, two situations can be distinguished: i) women are actively involved in agricultural work (from sowing to harvesting) on men's fields despite their domestic and family occupations (preparing food, fetching water, taking care of children); ii) in case of access, some women operate and manage their own fields. In the first case, women do not have much power in the decision making and management of production, whereas in the second case they are fully responsible. For

example, in the hydro-agricultural schemes with total water control supervised by ONAHA, 19% of small-scale irrigation farms are run by women (MA, 2021).

Women and young people are the poorest group. However, they constitute the majority of the labour force on farms and contribute greatly to the family economy through their cash income from agricultural or agro-trade activities and those generated by local or cross-border migration (MA, 2015). Although they participate in agricultural work and are active in a number of sectors (vegetables, pulses, short-cycle livestock, fish trade, primary processing, etc.), they receive little agricultural advice. Women in particular do not have the same opportunities to access technical services (MA, 2015).

In Niger, 83% of young people work in the primary sector, particularly in agriculture. However, young people are subject to various factors of vulnerability: ambient poverty, food insecurity, underemployment, lack of training (49% are uneducated) and access to water. The fact is that agricultural activities cannot occupy them for more than half the year, which leads to rural exodus and international migration (INS, 2016 and FAO, 2015).

### *Assessment of the available literature on small-scale agriculture*

Because of its socio-economic importance, small-scale agriculture is the subject of studies and research that provide knowledge in the field. The work focuses on understanding the vulnerability factors of producers, the role of public policies in developing the sector (3N) and the contributions of the actions of the State and partners. In the framework of the implementation of the 3N Initiative, the actions of development projects strengthen the performance of agriculture through better sustainable management of resources, increased production and income of producers for their food security, nutrition and poverty reduction (IFAD, 2018; RECA, 2020; MMC, 2018). In Niger, gender issues are important in agriculture. Indeed, Niger is facing a strong defeminisation of agriculture, with the

proportion of women in the agricultural sector falling from 40% in 2006 to 11% in 2011 (FAO, 2022). However, women remain a key actor in improving food security on family farms. Strong inequalities prevent women from realising their potential, particularly in terms of access to resources, land, inputs, knowledge, opportunities and markets (FAO, 2022). There are good practices on gender. For example, the implementation of affirmative action for women in the Regional Programme for the Improvement of Agricultural Productivity in West Africa (PPAAO) has reached 43% of women, improving their productivity and income.

Soils are overexploited and fertiliser inputs are too limited. Agricultural tools and equipment are rudimentary. The constraints on agriculture are enormous, notably insecurity, difficult access to improved techniques and technologies such as seeds, poor soils, delayed and early cessation of rainfall, droughts, floods, pests, insufficient land, poverty of the population, poor organisation of producers, low prices during the harvest period and poor sales of cash crops, poor supervision of producers, lack of funding and insufficient food (MA, 2021; HC I3N, 2021; CNEDD, 2020; Zakari et al., 2016; AGRHYMET, 2012; Amoukou, 2011)

### *Public policy for small-scale agriculture*

To ensure food security and reduce poverty and malnutrition, the State of Niger and its partners are implementing sustainable development policies. Thus, Niger has several strategies including i) the Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth Strategy (SDDCI) Vision 2035; ii) the Economic and Social Development Programme (PDES) 2017-2021, and iii) the 3N Initiative. All these policies aim to develop small-scale agriculture through the implementation of agricultural development projects and programmes by the state and its partners. For example, the objective of the 3N Initiative is to strengthen national capacities for food production, supply and resilience to food crises and natural disasters. The 3N Initiative is an important component of the Sustainable

Development and Inclusive Growth Strategy (HC I3N, 2021).

The National Gender Policy (NGP) is intended as a framework for consultation and dialogue to ensure sustainable and balanced human development. It is structured around strategic axes, notably: (i) the equitable promotion of the situation and social position of women and men within the family and the community; (ii) the equitable promotion of the potential and position of women and men within the household economy and in the market economy; (iii) the equitable participation of men and women in the management of power (decision-making) (MA, 2015)

The national strategic framework for the promotion of youth entrepreneurship in Niger aims to promote access by young people of both sexes to decent, sustainable and quality business creation and self-employment opportunities in order to reduce poverty.

### *Access to land and land governance*

In the small-scale farming production system, inheritance is the dominant mode of access to land for producers. In addition, farmers with good financial capacities buy from vulnerable producers. However, access to land remains marginal for poor smallholders, especially women, due to poverty, insecurity and cultural constraints.

The importance of agricultural activities makes land reforms a major issue, which led the state to adopt a land policy in 2021. The vision of this land policy by 2035 is 'a Niger where rural actors benefit from equitable and secure access to land, which contributes to the creation of favourable conditions for the development of responsible investments allowing the attainment of food security and sovereignty, the strengthening of the resilience of populations and, more broadly, sustainable and harmonious socio-economic development, guaranteeing the maintenance of social peace. The objective of the policy is to make rural land a powerful lever for the country's economic and social development through modernised and integrated, responsible and

efficient land governance, which ensures sustainable land management, equitable and non-conflictual access to land and renewable rural natural resources, as well as the securing of legitimate land rights in their diversity and in particular those of vulnerable rural operators (women, young people, people in disabling situations) (Rural Code, 2021) Land policy is implemented by the Rural Code through its Land Commissions at all levels. However, the Rural Code has not been able to establish itself as the reference institution for land management in the face of traditional, administrative and decentralised authorities, which enjoyed and still enjoy great legitimacy. This largely explains the difficulties that the Rural Code institutions face in bringing together all actors in a truly coherent and appropriate approach, at all administrative levels (MA, 2015). However, the Rural Code needs to be updated to take into account the current dynamics of land tenure challenges and to bring together all actors to ensure land governance in Niger. For the moment, Niger's land policy has not been formally evaluated, but important actions are being implemented by the state and its partners. On the ground, project interventions have contributed to access and management of agricultural land, especially for vulnerable groups such as women and poor farmers.

### *Climate change and small-scale agriculture*

In Niger, climate change represents a major risk for producers. The main risks linked to changing climatic factors are a disruption of the rainy season, drought, flooding, reduced rainfall, increased temperature, hot and dry winds. Adaptations developed by producers include crop diversification, adjustment of the agricultural calendar, cultivation practices, soil management strategies, adjustment of storage systems, abandonment of certain activities and the practice of new activities (Issoufou et al, 2017). The effects of climate change on agriculture are related to dysfunctional agricultural seasons, disruption of crop biological cycles and deterioration of crop production and yields (Issoufou et al, 2017; AMOUKOU, 2011 and AGRHYMET, 2012).

The National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) aims to contribute to the sustainable development of Niger by reducing the negative impacts of climate change. The strategy is based on a vision of climate-smart agriculture. For example, Niger has a National Environment Council for Sustainable Development (CNEDD) which has piloted a National Action Programme for Adaptation to Climate Change. This programme has focused on promoting strategies for the prevention, mitigation or management of the effects of climate disruption in the small-scale agricultural sector. Actions that benefited small-scale agriculture included the use of early varieties, input intensification through changes in fertiliser rates (mineral and organic), assisted natural regeneration (ANR), and changes in planting dates. CES/DRS techniques (organic and mineral fertilisation, Zaïs, half-moons and benches).

### *International or regional cooperation for small-scale agriculture*

To implement agricultural policies and international commitments in the field of agriculture, the State of Niger benefits from numerous international and regional cooperations. This mainly involves financing activities through agricultural development projects. Many projects are implemented in favour of small producers. These include projects financed by FAO, USAID, the World Bank, the European Union, international NGOs, technical cooperation (Belgian, GIZ, Spain, etc.) and regional cooperation (ECOWAS, UEMOA). The best rainfed and irrigated practices promoted by these different partners concern technical capacity building, good agricultural practices (from soil preparation to harvesting, including crop protection), quality inputs adapted to climate change, techniques for restoring degraded soils, access to water, structuring and access to markets. The focus is on agro-ecology. The actions allow for the strengthening of institutional and organisational capacities of state agents, the Rural Code, administrative and customary authorities and rural communities and the resilience of



agricultural production systems for the food and nutritional security of communities.

### 3. PASTORALISM

#### *General characteristics*

Livestock farming is the second main activity and occupies 87% of rural populations. It provides 15% of household income, contributes 25% to food security and nearly 25% to local government budgets. Livestock production contributes nearly 11% to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 24% to the agricultural GDP, and ranks first in total export earnings from agro-sylvo- pastoral products with 22% (INS, 2020).

Grazing land represents 62 million hectares (45% of the territory) and is divided between the pastoral and agricultural zones (MA, 2015). Water is the key factor for survival and development. Water resources are mainly constituted by natural surface ponds. The livestock population is estimated at 35 million head, distributed among 87% of households. The number of heads is 18.10 million for goats, 13.19 million for sheep and 15.22 million for cattle (INS, 2020).

Livestock activities are concentrated in 6 regions: Agadez, Zinder, Tahoua, Maradi, Tillabéry and Diffa. Niger exports part of its livestock to the sub-region. In 2019, cattle exports were 467,859 head, sheep exports reached 1,047,648 head and goats 968,351 head (INS, 2020). According to the agro-ecological zones, there are three main livestock systems: two thirds (66%) of the livestock are in the agricultural zone (sedentary livestock), 18% in the sub-desert to desert zone (nomadic livestock: the herd does not leave the area) and 16% are in a North-South transhumance system (transhumant livestock) (FAO, 2015). Thus, livestock types range from sedentary to transhumant pastoralism. Herd mobility and extensive grazing are in most cases the best means of developing the pastoral territory and preserving the livestock.

In total, about 75% of the livestock is raised in a nomadic and transhumant mode, either domestically or across borders (MA, 2015).

However, many constraints affect the productivity and income of pastoral activities. The most important are: insecurity, droughts, diseases, insufficient livestock feed, bush fires, insufficient water points, conflicts between farmers and herders, insufficient structuring of herders, the extensive nature of herding, low purchasing power and technical supervision of herders, the low use of new information and communication technologies, inadequate pastoral governance and the monopolisation of pastoral land, the increase in population and cultivated areas, which reduces pastoral areas (CNEDD, 2020; FAO, 2015; Bernard, 2013; Bodé et al., 2010; FISAN, 2021).

#### *Role and place of women and young people*

As in agriculture, women and young people play a dominant role in livestock activities, particularly in production (herding and feeding). In the livestock areas, most of the livestock ownership remains with women, especially small and large ruminants (goats, sheep and cattle) and poultry. Nevertheless, there are still shortcomings in livestock management decisions. The empowerment of women and their better inclusion in decision-making processes is an important issue in livestock development. Indeed, the rights-based approach emphasises the universality, indivisibility and inalienability of human rights; the principles of participation and inclusion in decision-making; non-discrimination, equality and justice; transparency and accountability (MA, 2015). This approach is supposed to empower the poorest and most vulnerable groups such as women and youth. Women suffer from problems of low technical and financial capacity to carry out different roles and tasks in the sector such as representation in management structures and access to funding opportunities to undertake to sustain them in pastoral and agro-pastoral systems.

#### *Assessment of the available literature on pastoralism*

Because of its socio-economic importance, pastoralism is the subject of studies and research

that provide knowledge in the field. The work focuses on understanding the vulnerability factors of pastoralists, the role of public policies in developing the sector (Bernard, 2013; Habibou et al., 2018) and the contribution of state and partner actions. In the framework of the implementation of the 3N Initiative, the actions of development projects strengthen the performance of livestock through better sustainable management of resources, increased production and income of pastoralists for their food security, nutrition and poverty reduction (PRAPS, 2016 and IFAD, 2018). There are no studies on the role of men and women in the different links of the pastoral value chain. However, such studies are necessary for a gendered understanding of the value chains that offer more opportunities for increased income and job creation for women and youth.

### *Public policies in favour of pastoralism*

The major challenges of pastoralism have led the State of Niger to develop and implement a national policy for the development of livestock with the following objectives: to rehabilitate the pastoral zone, to increase its productivity, to ensure complementarity between livestock and agriculture, to preserve the purchasing power of livestock farmers and the reproductive potential of the herd. Thus, the sectoral livestock strategies and the Sustainable Livestock Development Strategy 2012-2035 (SDDEL) mainly target strategic areas such as: 1) improving animal health and guaranteeing the quality of foodstuffs and livestock products, 2) ensuring consistent livestock production and proper valorisation of products, with this area focusing on sustainable management of pastoral areas; 3) ensuring the steering and management of the sector by the Ministry (Rural Code, 2021).

### *Pastoralism and rangeland management*

The Rural Code was initiated in 1993 to secure land tenure for rural actors, organise the rural world, ensure sustainable management of natural resources, land use planning and conflict prevention. It sets the legal framework for agricultural, forestry and pastoral activities with a

view to land use planning, environmental protection and human development. The delimitation and protection of pastoral enclaves, passage corridors or grazing areas for livestock in agricultural areas and access to water are tools for the preservation of pastoralism. Despite these legal and institutional tools, Nigerien herders criticise the Rural Code, and demand the creation of a 'Pastoral Code' that would defend their rights and practices. The Rural Code has been accused of not explicitly considering livestock as a mode of land development, in the same way as agriculture, and the status of land in pastoral areas was not clearly enough defined (Habibou et al., 2018; Bernard, 2013 Bodé et al., 2010).

In 2010, a complementary ordinance was adopted for pastoralism. It marked real progress by: i) recognising pastoral mobility as a fundamental right of herders, nomadic and transhumant pastoralists; ii) enshrining the state status of pastoral resources; iii) prohibiting any form of exclusive appropriation of pastoral space that is part of the public domain of the state or of local authorities. However, its application decrees are slow to be promulgated, as is the popularisation and application of the texts. This new sectoral law, which is integrated into all the legal texts making up the Rural Code, reaffirms a certain number of principles and imposes new standards. Among the difficulties linked to the application of the rural code, we note the lack of knowledge of the texts by the actors who are supposed to use and apply them. The challenge remains to popularise the new norms instituted by this law, and to make the entire rural population of Niger understand the issues at stake. It will also be necessary to strengthen the existing structures of the Rural Code so that they are able to implement and monitor the application of these standards.

Access to rangelands is regulated by the texts of the Rural Code and the ordinance on pastoralism. For example, local conventions on areas and corridors in agro-pastoral zones. Thus, rangelands (grazing areas, animal passage corridors) are subject to consensual delimitation (marking) and securing through communal decrees taken by local authorities to regulate the use of the resource by the actors (agriculture and

livestock breeders) and prevent conflicts. Land commissions, administrative and customary authorities and producers (farmers and herders) are the main actors in land governance.

Insecurity is another factor of vulnerability for pastoralists. It limits access to pasture and water and causes losses of animals and income. The lack of state investment does not ensure the viability of public services (pumping stations, herd care and vaccination systems) for pastoralists. Major droughts cause significant losses of livestock. In many cases, the losses are too great to allow a return to the pastoral system, leading many pastoralist families to develop high-risk agro-pastoralism, which is poorly adapted to the fragile and poorly watered soils and does not guarantee any land security (Habibou et al., 2018; Bernard, 2013; Bodé et al., 2010).

### *Climate change and pastoralism*

Niger has a fragile ecosystem and its land and vegetation resources are under increasing pressure from climate change and desertification. Successive periods of drought since the 1970s have profoundly transformed Niger's pastoralism, characterised by very significant losses. Meteorological and climatic hazards with extreme and frequent periods of drought and flooding are increasingly pushing back the limits of herders' adaptation capacities (Bernard, 2013; Bodé et al., 2010).

The main risks linked to the change in climatic factors are a disruption of the rainy season, drought, floods and a decrease in rainfall. The effects of climate change on livestock farming are related to fodder dysfunction, disruption of biological cycles of fodder crops and a decrease in animal production (CNEDD, 2020). The various factors of vulnerability and adaptability of these pastoral societies, which have long integrated mobility into their lifestyles as an adaptation strategy to the hazards and variability of natural resources. This mobility is based on a network of relationships and agreements that constitute the social capital of pastoral communities. This social capital of mobility, skilfully constructed and

maintained by the communities, helps them to adapt to factors of vulnerability.

The National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) aims to contribute to the sustainable development of Niger by reducing the negative impacts of climate change. The strategy is based on a vision of climate-smart livestock farming. For example, Niger has a National Environment Council for Sustainable Development (CNEDD) which has piloted a National Action Programme for Adaptation to Climate Change. This programme has focused on promoting strategies to prevent, mitigate or manage adverse effects in the livestock sector (CNEDD, 2020). For example, CES/DRS techniques (firebreaks, benches, half-moons, sowing, awareness-raising on bushfires and peace, livestock feed banks, construction or rehabilitation of water points, animal vaccination, control of invasive plants). These actions strengthen the resilience of pastoralists.

### *International or regional cooperation in favour of pastoralism*

International and regional cooperation has enabled Niger to benefit from significant funding in the livestock sector through projects (year). These include projects financed by FAO, USAID, the World Bank, the European Union, the French Development Agency, international NGOs, technical cooperation (Belgian, GIZ, Spain, etc.) and regional cooperation (ECOWAS, WAEMU). The actions allow the strengthening of institutional and organisational capacities of state agents, the Rural Code, administrative and customary authorities and rural communities; pastoral development, security, access and resilience of pastoral systems and the improvement of animal health. These actions have led to positive impacts of land legislation and mechanisms for securing, concerted and equitable management of pastoral natural resources for the resilience of pastoral societies. The Projet Régional d'Appui au Pastoralisme au Sahel (PRAPS). The PRAPS is a World Bank support to six Sahelo-Saharan countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, Mauritania and Senegal) to improve access to essential production means and services and markets for pastoralists and

agropastoralists in cross-border areas and along transhumance routes in Sahelian countries, and to improve the capacity of these countries to respond in a timely and effective manner in the event of pastoralist crises or emergencies" (RECA, 2015).

#### **4. MAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agriculture (rainfed and irrigated) and pastoralism are the main sources of food and income for the population. However, the performance of these main activities is strongly affected by numerous technical, physical, environmental and socio-economic constraints. The result is low agricultural and livestock productivity in Niger, leading to recurrent situations of food insecurity, child malnutrition, poverty and low resilience of communities, including women and young people, despite the many efforts of the state, local authorities, technical and financial partners and the rural populations concerned. To improve the performance of agriculture and livestock in order to extinguish food security, nutrition and resilience of the populations and considerably reduce poverty, the following recommendations are made

1. Supporting producers on training in soil fertility management and crop protection and the provision of production inputs (improved seeds)
2. Organising market garden producers to facilitate access to inputs and markets
3. To provide institutional support to the technical services of agriculture and livestock to help them provide advice to producers and breeders
4. Facilitate women's access to land, agricultural technologies, financial services
5. Provide food assistance (cash transfers during the lean season to support farmers in the exploitation of their fields and livestock breeders through the recovery and development of grazing areas

6. Provide institutional support to technical services and local authorities for the popularisation of texts on agricultural land
7. Support the State and local authorities in the design and implementation of real agricultural policies adapted to the realities of farmers and pastoralists;
8. Support the State, local authorities and communities in the prevention and management of insecurity through awareness-raising activities

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