

The government policy adopted in august 2012 is based on five pillars:

1. The consolidation of the credibility and the efficiency of the public institutions.
2. The creation of the conditions of durability of a well-balanced including development.
3. Promoting food security and sustainable agricultural development.
4. Promoting competitiveness and broad based economic growth.
5. Insure social development

The main priorities of Niger government are:

1. Implementing a real democracy through fair elections and the promotion of peace and security.
2. Fighting corruption and favoritism in business, particularly in granting contracts.
3. Institution of an efficient economic policy, directed onto growth.
4. Improving irrigation, transport, energy, and any other sector that can leverage returns on private investment and boost growth.
5. Improving access to public services in education, health, water and sanitation.
6. Enforcing freedom of the press and independence of justice.
7. Fighting gender inequality, youth unemployment and human trafficking



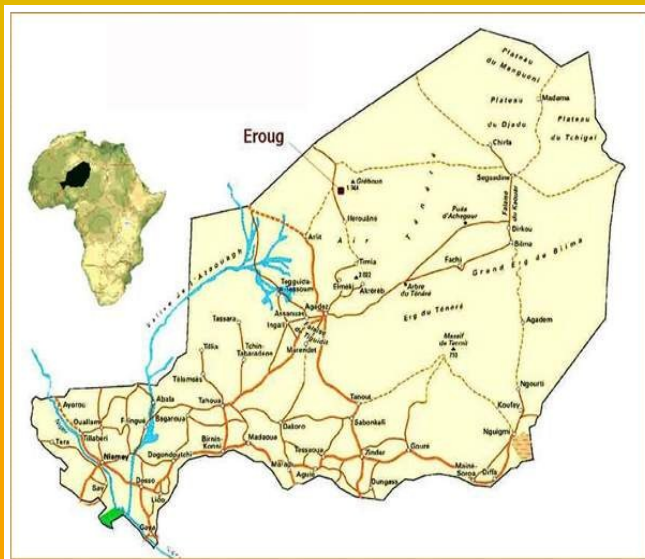
REPUBLIQUE DU NIGER

*Fraternité - Travail - Progrès*

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE

## Country Profile

### THE REBIRTH OF NIGER

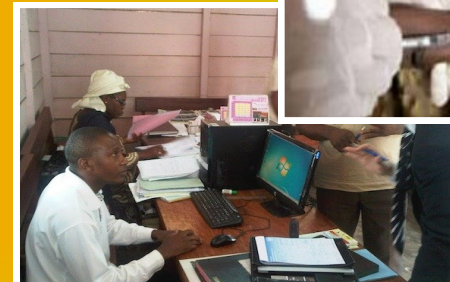


**Millennium Challenge Account Niger**  
*Deploy Energies to Accelerate Development*

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# Profile

Niger is one of the largest sub-Saharan countries in West Africa. It covers an area of 1,267,000 square kilometers, much of which consist of a beautiful desert. The Niger River flows through the country over a length of 550 km.



Niger's population is estimated at around 16 million in 2012, of which 50.1% are women and 49.2% are under 15 years old. 78% of its population is living in rural areas.

Economically, Niger is a developing country with \$ 177 GDP per capita and a 2.1% growth rate in 2011.

However, according to the IMF projections, the growth rate can reach 14 % in 2012. Niger's economic growth is also expected to remain high for the upcoming years.

Agriculture and livestock are the main economic activities for most of the population and are ranked first in terms of wealth creation. They are the leading driver of growth in the government program

called "3N":  
les Nigériens  
Nourissent les  
Nigériens,  
"Nigériens  
Feeds Ni-



geriens", which aims to develop a modern agriculture and overcome the cycle of drought.

The service sector has experienced a significant increase due to the deregulation of the ICT sector and the development of the financial sector.

For the secondary sector, dominated by mining and oil extraction, Niger offers an attractive mining and investment codes. The largest natural resources exported are uranium, oil, and gold.



The investment rate is increasing sharply due to growing foreign direct investment in the mining, oil, gas and infrastructure sectors. It is supported by an open trade policy aligned with the regional integration programs of WAEMU and ECOWAS as well as the business environment that is constantly improving.

Niger shares a common currency with seven other WAEMU countries: the CFA Franc. The Nigerien financial system is steadily growing and has resisted the global financial crisis thanks to careful management. Inflation is relatively well controlled due to the provisions enacted to that end.

Economic performance will be achieved through the implementation of major projects in mining (uranium, gold, phosphate, etc.) and oil.

Based on these projections, resources will be mobilized through public private partnership and increasing Aid.

Politically, Niger is a state of law with a democratic semi-presidential regime

characterized by an executive, a legislature, and an independent judiciary system. In addition, the constitution guarantees the rule of law.

A Social and republican Constitution that protects the rights and freedoms of citizens guarantees freedom of expression, freedom of artistic and cultural expression, religion, worship, opinion, conscience, and thought.



The constitution is dedicated to equality of citizens before the law, the existence of a legal framework that protects private property, freedom of residence, movement across borders, employment, and gender equality.

A Strong protection of freedom of the press