**Contributing factors**

Serious to Critical, in addition to the departments of Madarounfa and Guidan-Touma, two departments of Maïné-Soroa and Dogondoutchi will deteriorate further from that will increase again with the onset of the rainy season. Seven departments will improve, with a decrease in malnutrition due to a drop in the number of cases of diseases such as diarrhoea and malaria, and an improvement in the dietary diversity. The departments of Maïné-Soroa and Dogondoutchi, which were previously in a Critical situation, will improve slightly in an Alert situation in this period. Furthermore, the departments of Maïné-Soroa and Dogondoutchi (Dosso) were in a Critical situation (IPC AMN Phase 4). The situation in 2022 was significantly worse than in the previous year 2021 (SMART 2021) and the last IPC AMN analysis (December 2019).

Between August and November 2022, eight departments were in an Alert situation of acute malnutrition (IPC AMN Phase 2), 43 departments were in a Serious situation (IPC AMN Phase 3), while the two departments of Maïné-Soroa (Diffa) and Dogondoutchi (Dosso) were in a Critical situation (IPC AMN Phase 4). The situation in 2022 was significantly worse than in the previous year 2021 (SMART 2021) and the last IPC AMN analysis (December 2019).

Between December 2022 and April 2023, the nutritional situation is expected to improve, with a decrease in malnutrition due to a drop in the number of cases of diseases such as diarrhoea and malaria, and an improvement in the dietary diversity of children due to the good availability of market garden produce at this time. The analysis projects that the eight departments that were classified in an Alert situation in the previous period will remain in the same phase, and that 13 other departments will move from a Serious to an Alert situation, meaning, 21 departments will be in an Alert situation in this period. Furthermore, the departments of Maïné-Soroa and Dogondoutchi, which were previously in a Critical situation, will improve slightly to a Serious situation, leaving 32 departments in a Serious situation for this period.

Between May and July 2023, the nutritional situation will likely deteriorate again because of the lean season and the number of cases of diseases (diarrhoea, malaria) that will increase again with the onset of the rainy season. Seven departments will remain in an Alert situation while 14 departments will move from an Alert situation to a Serious situation. In total, 42 departments will be in a Serious situation. The two departments of Maïné-Soroa and Dogondoutchi will deteriorate further from Serious to Critical, in addition to the departments of Madarounfa and Guidan-Roundji, bringing the total of departments in a Critical situation to four.

**Overview**

The latest IPC Acute Malnutrition (AMN) analysis of Niger estimated that throughout 2023, nearly 1.9 million children aged 6-59 months will likely be acutely malnourished. Around 430,000 of these are expected to be severely malnourished, while around 1.5 million are expected to be moderately malnourished, a decrease of 1% for both compared to last year’s estimates (2022). Around 154,000 pregnant and lactating women are also expected to be acutely malnourished compared to around 64,000 last year (2022), an increase of 141%. The analysis covers the 53 departments, the city of Niamey, as well as the internally displaced populations (IDPs) (in regions of Tillabéri and Diffa), Malian refugees (in Abala, Ayourdou and Ouallam sites) and Nigerian refugees (in Sayam camps - Diffa), which have been analysed separately.

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**Contributing factors**

- Childhood diseases, especially diarrhoea, cholera, measles
- Food diversity is generally very insufficient and there is localized food insecurity
- Lack of access to adequate latrines resulting in a high rate of open defecation
- Inadequate breastfeeding practices, especially exclusive breastfeeding
- Risk of flooding due to heavy rains or overflow of the Niger and its tributaries
- Organized violence leading to massive population displacement

**Recommended Actions**

- Provide humanitarian assistance
  - As a first priority, deliver treatment for all children under five and pregnant and lactating women suffering from acute malnutrition to reduce the infant and maternal mortality rate.

- Take actions for early prevention
  - Strengthen measles vaccination coverage, vitamin A supplementation, deworming, malaria prevention as well as screening for acute malnutrition and case management.

- Promote good caring and feeding practices
  - Strengthen Infant and Young Child Feeding practices (immediate breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding, dietary diversification, promotion of consumption of local micronutrient rich foods).

- Increase access to safe water and adequate sanitation
  - Improve food utilisation and its impact on nutrition as well as revert and manage cases of diarrhoeal disease by facilitating people’s access to safe water sources, while intensifying hygiene and sanitation awareness and services.

- Monitor risk factors
  - Monitor Infant and Young Child Feeding practices, the occurrence of measles cases and disease peaks (malaria, diarrhoeal diseases, acute respiratory infections), the availability and access to resources and foodstuffs, the price of foodstuffs on the markets, the pastoral and agricultural lean season, access to health services.

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**Trend Analysis 2019 - 2023**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Children in Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)</th>
<th>Children in Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)</th>
<th>Pregnant or Lactating Women in Acute Malnutrition</th>
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<td>1,457,000</td>
<td>0.15M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
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<td>0.15M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IPC** Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

**SMART** Integrated Multi-Stress Score

**IPC** Integrated Phase Classification

**PROGRESAN** Proactive Resilience Guidance and Engagement System

**SICA** Society Civil Action

**UNICEF** United Nations Children’s Fund

**WFP** World Food Programme

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**Feedback:**

Trend Analysis 2019 - 2023

- 1 - Acceptable
- 2 - Alert
- 3 - Serious
- 4 - Critical
- 5 - Extremely critical

**Evidence Level**

- High
- Medium
- Acceptable
- Scarce evidence due to limited or no humanitarian access

The analysis was conducted under the sponsorship of the Directorate of Nutrition (Ministry of Public Health). It benefited from the technical and financial support of UNICEF.

Classification of food insecurity and malnutrition using the IPC protocols, developed and implemented by the IPC Global Partnership – Action Against Hunger, CARE, CESS, UC-B, IRC, JPA, RESTART, Food Security Cluster, Malnutrition Cluster, NIPN, OCHA, PROGRESAN, SICA, SADC, Save the Children, UNICEF and WFP.

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