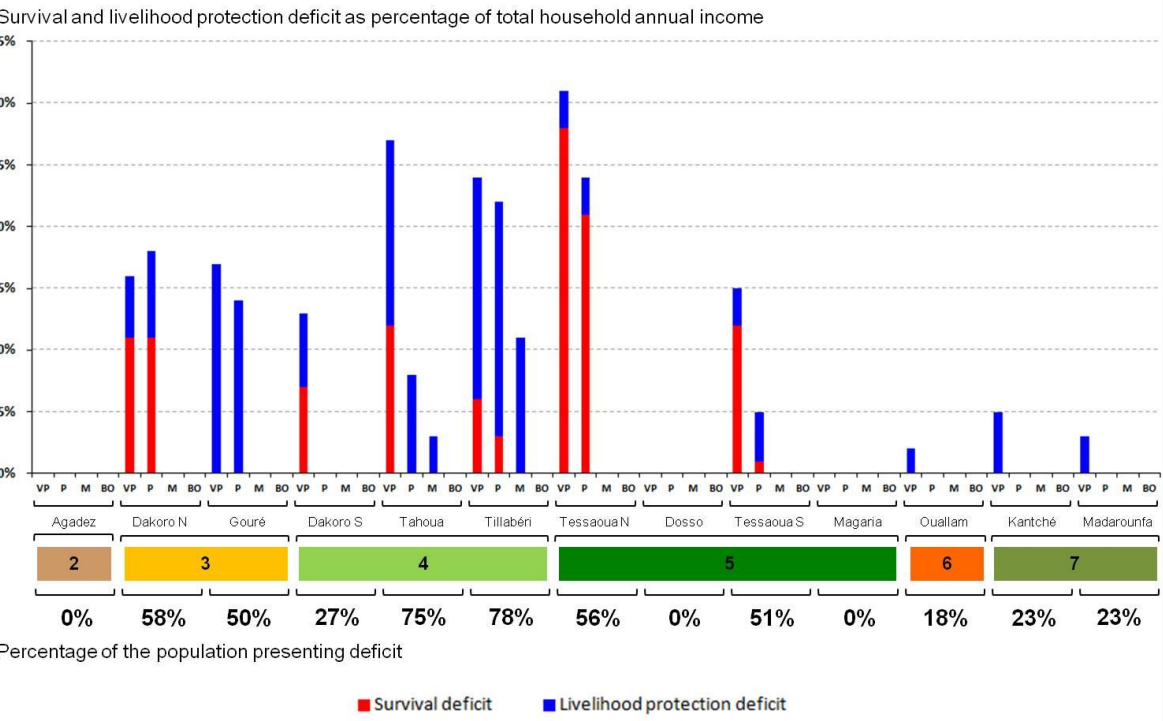
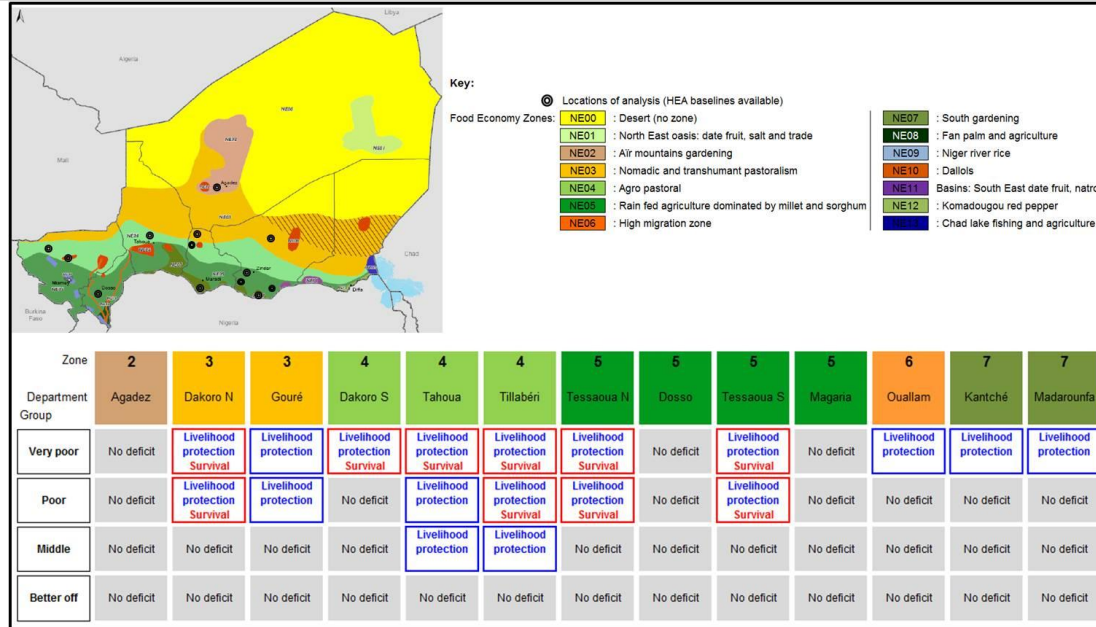


Niger outcome analysis – synthesis report – June 2012

Key findings :

- The pastoral and agro pastoral livelihood zones of Niger towards the North seem to be more affected than the rain fed and irrigated agriculture zones located on the southern parts of the country and in the Air mountains;
- The rain fed agriculture zone presents areas with high deficits and areas showing no deficit at all;
- In the most affected areas, 50% to 78% of the population present deficits, starting around April and peaking during the lean season (June to September 2012). These areas are Dakoro, Gouré, Tahoua, Tillabéri and Tessaoua in the pastoral, agro pastoral and rain fed agriculture livelihood zones;
- The depicted situation does not take into account the positive outcome generated by the ongoing implementation of the National Support Plan of the Government of Niger.



This analysis was carried out in Niamey and Maradi on May 28, 2012 for thirteen baselines by Save the Children with the financial and technical support of the Humanitarian Aid Office of the European Union (ECHO).

- The thirteen baselines belong to six different livelihood zones of Niger (see map above):
- Air mountains gardening (NE02);
 - Nomadic and transhumant pastoralism (NE03);
 - Agro pastoral (NE04);
 - Rain fed agriculture (NE05);
 - High migration zone (NE06);
 - South gardening (NE07).

Livelihood zones are ranked according to their deficit level and the intensity of the food insecurity as follows (see table above):

- Affected:** livelihood zones NE03, NE04 and; NE05 (parts) ;
- Less affected:** livelihood zones NE06 and NE07;
- Not affected:** livelihood zones NE02 and NE05 (parts).

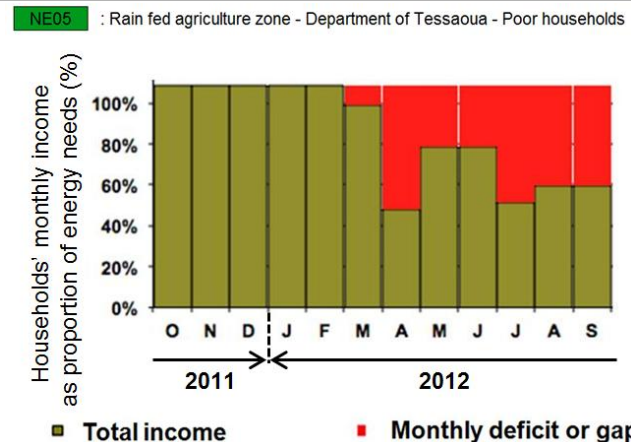
Official monitoring data on crop production and prices was used for the definition of the current year problem that households face.

Niger outcome analysis

Seasonality of deficit

The timing at which the deficits will occur depends on the seasonal consumption and expenditures of households in each wealth group and livelihood zone. The monthly deficit presented in red was generated by combining information on total income with seasonal calendar data. It takes into account the different times when the different sources of food and income are available. The results presented here take the example of the very poor households in the livelihood zone NE05 – Rain-fed agriculture in the Tessaoua department, and show that the deficits are likely to occur between March and September 2012. During these seven months, the chart to the right shows that very poor households will face a 20 to 50% income deficit compared to what they need to fulfill their essential needs to protect their livelihoods.

The same type of analysis is available for each wealth group and for each of the thirteen studied livelihood zones of Niger, and all show more severe deficits during an extended 3-to-6 month hunger season at the end of the consumption year peaking in June to September. The full report is available online on www.hea-sahel.org.



The principles of HEA

The HEA provides an adequate and quantified framework of analysis of households' livelihoods and how they access their food, earn their income and spend it during a normal or baseline year. It allows modelling of scenarios using the present year characteristics of key parameters (i.e. food prices, agriculture production) allowing to mathematically link the change (positive or negative) to each relevant livelihood strategy. The gap identified for a single household can be extrapolated to a livelihood zone and to its population allowing the anticipation of needs in food or in cash of households in each wealth group and livelihood zone.

For each livelihood zone, the HEA-based outcome analysis is done in five steps (a to e):

- (a) shows the total income of households in the reference year
- (b) details the current year's situation for key parameters that are known to significantly impact on households' ability to react to the situation.
- (c) shows the effect of problem without analysis households' own capacity to react to the situation
- (d) integrates the household's own capacity to react to the current year situation
- (e) presents the final projected outcome

The projected outcome (e) is compared to:

- The **Survival Threshold** is the minimum income for a household to access and prepare food meeting 100% of the members' energy needs. It is set slightly above 100% of the minimum food needs to allow for expenditure on survival non-food items associated with food preparation (i.e. salt, soap, cooking fuel) and water for human consumption, as paid for during the reference year.
- The **Livelihood Protection Threshold** adds on to the survival threshold the expenditure on productive inputs for crop and livestock production, health and education costs. Some few other items related to standard of living have been included.

Here, households would have an income **deficit** or **gap** of about 25% of their total annual income. It describes a stress or crisis situation, in which households would require external assistance. A survival deficit describes a more severe situation dominated by hunger and child malnutrition.

