



U.S. Embassy Diplomacy Efforts in Niger: Building on Our Partnership

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Through diplomacy, the United States maintains a strong relationship with the Republic of Niger. Our partnership began with the birth of Niger in the 1960s, was memorialized by the construction of Niamey's John F. Kennedy Bridge in the 1970s, nurtured through hundreds of programs throughout the decades, and continues to the present day. The United States – as represented by our diplomats and diplomatic programs – touches Nigeriens from all walks of life. We are proud to promote our shared democratic values while working toward a more secure and thriving future. You'll find our diplomats working in:

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The Economic Affairs Section safeguards and promotes economic and trade partnerships between the U.S. and Niger, as well as the West African region. The section is responsible for a range of issues including commerce, economic development, public finance, money and banking, energy, foreign direct investment, telecommunications, and transportation. The section also works to enhance market access to the U.S. for Niger and many other Sub-Saharan African countries through the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

POLITICAL AFFAIRS

The Political Affairs Section builds cooperative relationships with officials, parliamentarians, politicians, academic institutions, civil society leaders, and foreign diplomats. It also collaborates with civil society and other organizations and provides self-help grants to individuals and groups working to improve Niger's future. Additionally, Political Affairs issues the congressionally mandated Country Report on Human Rights Practices, the Trafficking in Persons Report, and the International Religious Freedom Report, all of which are available on our Embassy website (ne.usembassy.gov).

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Public Affairs is involved in U.S. Embassy outreach with many stakeholders. The section works with international, U.S., and Nigerien media to ensure accurate reporting on issues relating to the U.S. and Niger. Additionally, the staff manages exchange opportunities for Nigerien students, academics, and leaders through programs such as Fulbright, International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), and Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI). Moreover, the section engages with the Nigerien public through cultural, women's and youth programs,



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including soccer and other sports programs, music festivals, training in film and social media, and more.

CONSULAR AFFAIRS

The Consular Affairs section provides three primary types of service. Staff issues non-immigrant visas to qualifying individuals seeking to enter the United States for temporary official business or tourism travel. Additionally, immigrant visas are issued for applicants eligible to immigrate to the United States. The section also assists American citizens living abroad by processing passport applications, issuing emergency passports, providing notarial services, handling reports of birth, adoption, and death abroad, and providing emergency services for Americans in distress.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

To broaden our efforts, we also collaborate with other diplomats and non-governmental organizations to help the Nigerien people. Among our partners are the European Union, other foreign embassies, the United Nations, Care International, Save the Children, PeaceTech, and Search for Common Ground, to name a few. In addition to our work with the Government of Niger, we partner with non-governmental organizations, including La Maison de la Presse, Conseil National de la Jeunesse, SAFEM, and more.

WORKING HAND-IN-HAND WITH U.S. DEVELOPMENT AND DEFENSE EFFORTS

The Embassy's diplomacy teams complement colleagues engaged in helping effect positive change through development and defense. Our U.S. military and other defense teams partner with Nigerien military and police throughout the country. USAID invests more than \$150 million annually to address food security, humanitarian aid, health, human rights, crisis intervention and education in Niger, and the five year \$437 million Millennium Challenge Compact was recently launched to reduce poverty and significantly increase economic opportunities for Nigeriens.

BY THE NUMBERS

- Since 2007, U.S. exchanges have included 148 International Visitor Leadership Program participants, 43 Nelson Mandela Fellows, 50 Fulbright visiting students, seven Fulbright African Scholars, eight Hubert Humphrey Fellows, and 10 Sports Visitor participants.
- There are more than 2,000 young adults participating in Niger's expansive Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) network.
- Since 2007, the Embassy has managed \$255,000 in small grants for improving opportunities for women and youth, and \$125,00 via the Julia Taft for Refugee Assistance program.
- Two Nigeriens, Major Aichatou Issaka Ousmane (2017) and Hadizatou Mani (2009), have been awarded the Department of State's prestigious Women of Courage Award.
- Six hundred Nigeriens work in a wide range of roles within the U.S. Embassy, and more than 500 are helping construct our new Embassy building.
- There are four American Spaces in Niamey, Zinder, Agadez, and Maradi. All provide cultural and educational programs and access to books, journals, and the Internet.



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