

Niger Program Summary

The three-year, \$23 million Niger Threshold program focuses on reducing public corruption within the health and education sectors, streamlining the process of starting a business by establishing the administrative, legal and regulatory structures required to implement business facilitation reforms, reducing the time and costs associated with land ownership transfer, land valuation, building permitting and notarization and bolstering girls' education by building "girl-friendly" schools.

Threshold Status

Status.....Implementation, Year 1

Threshold Information

Total Amount.....\$23 million
Agreement Signed.....March 17, 2008

Country Information

Population.....13,736,722*
GNI Per Capita Income.....\$280*

Program Highlights

- ★ With MCC Threshold Program support, nearly 70 school communities have been identified to be eligible schools. The IMAGINE project will provide additional classrooms, water sources, latrines, teacher housing, and other "hard inputs." Construction at two sites has begun and four boreholes are complete.
- ★ Baseline studies for the teacher training models are complete and work on the integrated teacher training model and the development of the advocacy strategy for girls' education is ongoing.
- ★ Discussions were held with the Ministry of Education on how best to provide the inputs for the planned canteens and take-home rations in the IMAGINE schools. UNICEF has agreed to provide student and teacher kits.
- ★ As part of the governance component of Niger's Threshold Program, an agreement is being developed with the National School for Administration to assist in training for the anti-corruption activities.
- ★ Negotiations with the National Institute of Statistics are underway to design, equip, and implement the National Information System on Controlling Corruption.
- ★ Recent assessments of public procurement and existing audits are being reviewed by the program implementers in order to improve transparency in public procurement.