



"After years of drought, desert locusts devastated the whole of Niger last year. **We MUST continue food aid till the next harvest in 2006...** People keep expressing their happiness on our arrival with everyone in the area we are working in saying that we are the first aid agency to bring them aid."

Ismail Abdullah (MH Sudan), Programme Director in Niger

## Famine in Niger

*MH working in Niamey, Touah, Maradi and Tillabrei*

Niger is continuing to suffer its worst humanitarian crisis since 1984, with 3.5 million people facing starvation and children dying every day. Starving livestock, on which people in this region depend, are now also dying in large numbers. Niger's neighbour Mali is also suffering severe drought and locust invasions, again causing massive food shortages for 1.5 million people.

### The sufferers in Niger need:

**£45:**

Family food parcel for one month

**£45:**

Goat or sheep for Sadaqah Sacrifice

**£2000:**

Digging of large community well

**Medicines**

for malaria & other waterborne diseases

MH Emergency Response Teams from Sudan and The Gambia were on the ground providing food and water to famine victims in Niamey, Touah, Maradi and Tillabrei (Filingue). Food aid must continue through Ramadan and beyond till the next harvest in January 2006. Hence MH has now established a more permanent presence in the area.

### How your donations helped

■ **Food Aid:** MH teams have distributed hundreds of tonnes of rice and maize in the four provinces of Niamey, Touah, Maradi and Tillabrei (Filingue). The total number of the beneficiaries exceeded 40,000 persons.

■ **Food Nutrition Centres:** During Ramadan 2005 MH will be running nutritional feeding centres in the worst hit areas.

■ **Sadaqah Sacrifice:** MH teams supplied meat to 500 famine struck families on the outskirts of Niamey through the MH Sadaqah Sacrifice Service.

■ **Safe Water:** Initially four large ground wells have been dug in the Managa-Ize area, some 100 miles from the capital Niamey.



*MH teams reach Niger with aid*



*Touah: Distribution of food*



*Niamey: Distribution of food*

## YOUR EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST

Humanitarian emergencies such as the Tsunami, famines and wars occur all too frequently. That's why it's so important for us all to be prepared and able to respond effectively.

### Here is how you can help...

**A** Keep yourself up-to-date with what's happening in the disaster area. Talk to MH about our response effort. Visit [www.muslimhands.org](http://www.muslimhands.org). Being aware is the first step to helping.

**B** Start thinking about how you might help by fundraising. Begin contacting your mosque, workplace or university. **Coordinated fundraising works.**

**C** Request and distribute literature and updates from MH to friends and family. Word of mouth is the best.

**D** Return your own and other's donation(s) as soon as possible. MH does not hold large reserves of funds, and they need to be replenished quickly.

**E** Think about the medium to long term. Cameras soon leave disaster scenes but the work of MH carries on long after, e.g. rebuilding homes and schools.

**F** MH will always provide you with feedback and updates on our work. When you receive these be sure to publicise them amongst friends and family.

**G** Remember that MH Emergency Response Teams allow us to act quickly and decisively when the need arises only through the efforts of our donors and volunteers.

**TOGETHER  
we can save  
LIVES**