

Press Release



Humanity First Canada

Monday October 15, 2012

Humanity First Responds to Africa Floods

Niger & Nigeria – Hit by the worst flooding in decades

91 people Killed in Niger 140 in Nigeria. Structures and farmlands severely damaged. Over 500,000 people displaced. Cholera rate is rising

Vaughan, Ontario, Canada – Niger's recent floods have killed 91 people and caused significant damage in all eight regions of the country that are affected by the floods, including the large regions of Tillabery, Dosso and



Niamey. The floods have damaged fields, rice paddies, water points, schools, health centers, roads, bridges and dams.

In addition large quantities of food have been destroyed and many cattle have washed away. Twelve irrigation schemes in

the Niger River valley, totaling 3,050 hectares (7,536 acres) were completely flooded after a major river surge recently.

One million children - one third them are from Niger, are facing life-threatening malnutrition in West Africa's Sahel region this year. In the meantime, more than 5.5 million Nigeriens have been affected by drought.

Vast stretches of Africa's most populous nation have been submerged by floods in the past few weeks, as major rivers like the Niger, the continent's third longest, burst their banks. Nigeria, which gets heavy tropical rains from May to September, usually suffers from seasonal flash floods but almost never on this scale.

In Nigeria, at least 140 people have been killed, hundreds of thousands uprooted and tens of thousands of hectares of farmland have been submerged since the start of July, raising concerns about food security, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) said.

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In Kogi, a northern state that has been the worst affected, 623,900 people had been displaced and 152,575 hectares of farmland destroyed so far.

Humanity First is responding to this disaster by providing relief supplies to affected communities. Volunteers are purchasing supplies locally from safe areas and transporting them to affected area to distribute to the needy.

Humanity urgently needs funds to support this relief work and appeals to the donors and supporters to donate generously to this cause.

Donations for Niger and Nigeria Relief Projects can be made online at <http://www.humanityfirst.ca>, or by mailing a check to Humanity First. All donations are tax-deductible.

- 30 -

Notes to editors:

Humanity First is an International Non-Profit Charitable Organization established to promote and safeguard the preservation of human life and dignity. Humanity First is a non-political, non-sectarian international relief and development agency that works with communities around the globe to improve the quality of life for some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. Humanity First has been granted a special consultative status with the United Nation's Economic and Social Council ([ECOSOC](http://www.un.org/Depts/undersec/ecosoc/)). For further information please visit our website <http://www.humanityfirst.ca>

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