

### AZANTCHI

# Support for the institutionalization of a sexual and reproductive health tutoring system

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In Niger, where almost 70% of the population is under the age of 25, young people represent a strategic challenge for improving sexual and reproductive health (SRH).

The data reveal worrying realities: 76% of girls are married before the age of 18, of which 28% are married before the age of 15, according to UNICEF figures. What's more, only 5% of women aged between 15 and 19 use modern methods of contraception (EDSN-MICS, 2017). What's more, early motherhood already affects half of all girls under 19, according to the same data.

In addition, access to SRH services is hampered by multiple barriers: gender inequalities, low socioeconomic status, low levels of education and literacy, value conflicts experienced by some caregivers, low quality of services, failure to take into account the specific needs of adolescents and young people (AJ) and unfavorable socio-cultural representations of sexuality.

## **KEY INFORMATION**

Project duration: 4 years (10/2023 - 07/2027)

Beneficiaries: 16 health structures, 62 health professionals, 20 school and extracurricular structures, 40 school and extracurricular structure referents, 34 tutors, 2 CSO partners (Lafia Matassa and RENIP+), 95 CSO members, 6 institutional partners, 10,000 young people and teenagers aged 10 to 24, 40 community leaders and parents.

#### Source of funding : AFD

**Partners:** Ministry of Public Health, Population and Social Affairs, Ministry of National Education, PNLSH, ENSP/DZ, Lafia Matassa, RENIP+.

Country: Niger

# **S** OBJECTIVES

Contribute to improving the health of populations in West Africa through the deployment of Solthis' new 2022-2025 strategy.

Following on from the JADES and JADES 2 projects, AZANTCHI aims to put the user at the heart of the fight against gender-based violence and unwanted pregnancies. To this end, it will promote the implementation of quality health services centered on and in partnership with patients.

This will involve :

- A strengthening of public and community health services and systems, which will be more usercentered.
- An exploration of how to operationalize new and complex themes and approaches in the field of global health (hepatitis B, One Health, health and climate) or recent Solthis initiatives (mother-child health).
- Strengthening Solthis' ability to deploy its new strategy.

## **EXPEXTED RESULTS**

- Health System Strengthening (HSS), particularly in the area of human resources for health (HRH), has improved.
- Individual and/or organizational empowerment of actors involved in the project in terms of community health is improved, including Solthis Niger teams.
- Situational analyses are carried out on new themes and/or approaches, at the request of and in partnership with national authorities.
- Pilot approaches to the operationalization of new health themes and/or approaches (Hepatitis B, One Health, SRMNIA) are developed, tested or capitalized on.
- The Solthis business model has been consolidated through increased private fund-raising and income from technical assistance, and diversification of institutional donors.
- The deployment of the Solthis 2022-2025 human resources (HR) strategy will enable us to better attract, retain, train and empower the association's human resources.



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