



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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WFP Senegal Country Brief December 2018

Operational Context

Senegal ranks 66 out of 119 countries in the 2018 Global Hunger Index. Although stable and democratic, Senegal is one of the world's least developed countries. The economy relies heavily on cash crops and fishing, both of which are vulnerable to climate change. Over the past decade, inadequate household food production due to deficit harvests caused by recurrent drought, floods, desert encroachment and salinization of arable lands, persistently high food prices and low resilience have compounded the food security of households and communities. As a result, nearly half of its population continues to live in poverty and have difficulty meeting basic food, health, education and housing needs. Poverty and food insecurity are highest in the southern Casamance region, further burdened by continuing low level conflict.

The Government is committed to boost economic growth and reduce poverty through the *Plan Sénégal Emergent*. A National Programme is being rolled out for Family Social Security transfers to tackle chronic poverty and make poor citizens more resilient to shocks. However, this programme only targets a quarter of a million people in need. Many Senegalese resort to migration for financial survival. The Government is also committed to gender equality and has a legal framework to protect women's rights. WFP is in Senegal since 1963.



Population: **15.9 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **164 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **17.1 % of children between 6-59 months**

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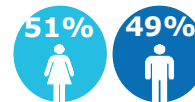
In Numbers

422 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$0.95 m cash-based transfers made

US\$6.6 m six months (January – June 2019) net funding requirements.

280,668 people assisted
in December 2018



Operational Updates

- Targeted Food Assistance (TFA):** WFP assisted 105,600 vulnerable people, through food vouchers distributions, during the Sahel Shock Response (SSR) operations implemented in northern Senegal (June-November 2018). In December, WFP started preparing, in collaboration with stakeholders, the SSR final report which will be published in January 2019. WFP also held two workshops to discuss SSR operations in Podor and Matam departments. The workshops were chaired by departmental prefects and attended by partners and local actors.
- Resilience building:** Under the food assistance for assets (FFA) activity, 9,623 households received USD 373,638 in Tambacounda and Kolda departments, through the second round of value vouchers distribution as compensation for creating sustainable assets to enhance community resilience. WFP also transferred a value of USD 644,163 to 3,500 participants in Matam and 5,000 participants in Podor following their engagement in FFA community work. Prior to distributions, spots were broadcasted in eight community radios to share key information. In addition, a study on climate services carried out with the National Meteorology Service ANACIM enabled WFP to understand local communities' specific needs for climate information and to adapt future programming accordingly. Together with the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP developed guidelines for the management of village cereal banks that will be used for a national-level training-of-trainers in an effort to reduce post-harvest losses.
- School meals:** About 72,200 schoolchildren received WFP school meals in December 2018. WFP also introduced an e-learning application in beneficiary schools – Nutrifami – that aimed at changing school cooks behaviours by providing information on nutrition, hygiene and healthy eating habits for those preparing food for the country's most vulnerable children. Nutrifami uses gamification to improve learning and user engagement. About 500 school cooks and canteens managers were trained. Furthermore, an introductory meeting to present the consultant hired by WFP to support the Government in implementing the school feeding transition plan was held with the Secretary General of the Ministry of National Education. During this meeting, the Nutrifami app was also presented to the Ministry staff.

Main photo

Caption: FFA activities in northern Senegal

Credit: WFP/Souleymane Diamanka

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (January - December 2018)

2018 Total Requirement (in USD)	2018 Allocated Contributions (in USD) received during the reporting month	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
19.9 m	10.5 m	6.6 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food-insecure households and vulnerable populations, (including school-aged children), are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs all year-round.

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 1:** Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food.
- **Activity 2:** School meal activities.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Targeted populations, including children 6-59 months and pregnant lactating women, in targeted districts have improved nutritional status in line with national targets by 2025.

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 3:** Support the Government with the prevention and treatment of acute and chronic malnutrition of PLW and children 6-59 months through the provision of specialized nutritious food, behavioural change communication and capacity strengthening.
- **Activity 4:** Complement the Government's fight against iodine and other micronutrient deficiencies through salt and local food fortification, including capacity strengthening.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have enhanced livelihoods and resilience to better support food security and nutrition needs by 2023.

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 5:** Create community and household productive assets and provide livelihood support (FFA) through integrated and participatory approaches.
- **Activity 6:** Provide insurance for assets (IFA) and climate services to enhance resilience to shocks and adaptation to climate change
- **Activity 7:** Connect smallholder farmers and organizations to market opportunities offered by WFP and partners' activities.

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: Institutional capacity strengthening activities

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 8:** Build and enhance capacity of government and partners in food nutrition security analysis, early warning and supply chain management for emergency preparedness, planning and response.
- **Activity 9:** Transfer expertise and build the capacity of the government for the transition to sustainable home-grown food, nutrition and social protection programmes.

- **Nutrition:** WFP continued to implement treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition in the north and east of Senegal. Over 44,900 children and pregnant and lactating women received nutrition assistance from September to December 2018. In partnership with several partners WFP organized a workshop on the situational analysis for rice fortification in Senegal. The workshop was held in Saint Louis, from 10 to 12 December and included key stakeholders, including government institutions, the civil society, development partners, UN agencies, donors, as well as private sector, academia and research institutions. The situational analysis paper is set to be published in early 2019.
- **Senegal Consultative Group Meeting:** On 17-18 December 2018, WFP Country Director participated in the Consultative Group Meeting held in Paris to mobilise financial resources for the Second Priority Action Plan (2019-2023) of the national *Plan for an Emerging Senegal* (PSE, 2014-2035). The meeting was successful, with USD14 billion pledged by partners. The event was organized by the Government, in collaboration with the World Bank and UN/UNDP. Participants included multilateral and bilateral partners, and finance institutions. Partners reiterated their support to Senegal, which has shown willingness to implement an ambitious strategy with very encouraging results. The United Nations should strengthen its commitment to support Senegal under the second phase of the PSE and the new UNDAF (2019-2023).

Monitoring

- WFP organised three post-distribution monitoring (PDM) exercises (for resilience and nutrition activities) in Matam, Podor, Kolda and Tambacounda regions.
- The office prepared responses to address the school feeding decentralized evaluation.

Gender Commitment

- The country office participated in WFP's annual campaign "16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence". Various actions were taken in Dakar and Kolda offices to express staff commitment to the mainstreaming of gender in the work place. This includes awareness sessions on gender inequalities, advocacy messages and visibility actions to enhance communication on GBV.
- A gender training was held for WFP staff and partners with the support of the Regional Bureau Dakar.

Donors

Canada, France, Japan, Luxembourg, UN Funds, USA, and Multilateral