



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Senegal Country Brief March 2019



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

18mt of food assistance distributed

US \$141,033 cash-based transfers made

US\$9 m six months (April – September 2019) net funding requirements.

72,222 people assisted in March 2019

Operational Updates

- **African School Food Day (JAAS):** After the launch of the 4th edition of the African School Feeding Day in Abidjan on 1 March, Senegal, like other African Union Member States, mobilized all school feeding actors to celebrate the event. The Ministry of National Education had chosen to celebrate this edition in Agnam Lidoubé (Matam region). WFP accompanied the Government in the festivities, which were marked by renewed requests from local authorities for a sustainable school feeding programme in all schools in Senegal.
- **School feeding:** WFP Senegal developed its prototype of Nutrifami application in 2018. Nutrifami is an application available on computers, tablets and smartphones, which trains and strengthens school cooks and canteen managers capacities on healthy and nutritious food. It teaches vulnerable communities on healthy eating habits and good hygiene practices. WFP Senegal started the dissemination of this innovative application in November 2018 through a training session conducted in the Matam region. A total of 472 cooks and canteen managers from the 236 schools supported by WFP in the Matam region were trained and the application was enthusiastically received by cooks who could easily use it despite being illiterate and unaccustomed to the use of smartphones. Several cooks have already successfully completed the various modules and obtained their certificates online.
- **WFP/FAO collaboration:** WFP and FAO carried out a field mission to Sedhiou region in line with the implementation of a pilot project to support the Government with public procurement of food from smallholder farmers for home-grown school feeding. The mission, which was carried out with the ministries of Agriculture and National Education was well received by local authorities and smallholder farmer organizations. The project will improve their access to market opportunities, dynamize the rural economy, and improve nutrition and health of the students in the assisted schools.
- **Donor engagement:** A donation reception ceremony was organized by WFP in Thiès to receive 114 mt of canned fish received as a contribution from Japan. Valued at USD 614,000, the donation will serve some 106,000 children enrolled in 584 elementary schools in eight regions of Senegal. The Ambassador of Japan H.E Tatsuo Arai and the Secretary-General of the Ministry of National Education were present.
- **Resilience building:** A workshop was organised in the field office in Kolda to review the 2018 crop year with all partners of the Insurance for Assets activity. The workshop saw the participation of the regional government prefect, the *Compagnie Nationale d'Assurance Agricole au Sénégal* (CNAAS), the *Programme Multinationale de Renforcement de la Résilience à l'Insécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle au Sahel – Senegal*" (P2RS), *La Lumière* and Oxfam.

Main photo

Caption: WFP presents Nutrifami application to President of the Republic of Senegal, Macky Sall

Credit: WFP partner

Country Strategic Plan (January - December 2019)

2019 Total Requirement (in USD)	2019 Allocated Contributions (in USD) received during the reporting month	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
19.3 m	0.3m	9 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food-insecure populations in targeted areas, including school-age children, have access to adequate and nutritious food all year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 1:** Provide seasonal food or CBT assistance to complement the Government's social transfers to food-insecure populations.
- **Activity 2:** Provide nutritious school meals to vulnerable children in targeted departments during the school year in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding).

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in targeted departments, including children, pregnant and lactating women and girls and other nutritionally vulnerable individuals, have improved nutritional status all year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 3:** Provide beneficiaries with specialized nutritious foods and programmes such as SBCC to prevent and treat acute and chronic malnutrition.
- **Activity 4:** Support the Government in addressing micronutrient deficiencies and enhance the availability of diverse, safe and healthy foods.

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable Food Systems

Strategic Outcome 3: Food-insecure populations and communities exposed to climatic shocks and other risks in targeted areas have resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems all year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 5:** Provide livelihood and climate adaptation support to targeted groups through integrated risk management and links to market opportunities.

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

Strategic Outcome 4: National and local institutions have strengthened capacities to manage food and nutrition security, social protection and resilience-building programmes by 2023.

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 6:** Build and enhance the capacity of central and local government in food and nutrition security analysis, emergency preparedness and response, supply chain management, and gender transformative safety-net programme design and management.

On this occasion, insurance compensation checks were delivered to 883 participating smallholder farmers. WFP also presented the R4 approach to index-based insurance in a panel discussion on community-based approaches to resilience building organized by FAO.

WFP has initiated discussions with the National Civil Aviation and Meteorological Agency (ANACIM) to develop a 2019 action plan for the implementation of climate services for smallholder producers in the Tambacounda and Kolda regions. The objective is to provide them with the tools to face climate variability and climate change.

- **Rome-Based agencies (RBA) Technical meeting:** Following the RBA (FAO, WFP, IFAD) heads of Agencies meeting in February 2019, a first technical meeting was held on 25 March in WFP office. The technical staff from the three agencies identified areas of collaboration and how to build programme synergies based on their comparative advantage for better results. Building resilience of rural communities against climate change, as enshrined in the UNDAF (2019-2023), was identified as the key focus area. A mapping of interventions of each agency throughout the national territory will be done to facilitate joint operational planning and implementation.
- **Nutrition:** WFP Vulnerability Assessment Mapping (VAM) colleagues from WFP headquarters, the regional bureau of Dakar and the country office fielded a mission to Louga to test the content of the innovative 'Chatbot' messaging application. On 19 March, the Chatbot and SAM (Severe Acute Malnutrition) Photo diagnosis application was shared in a workshop with partners. WFP received several useful feedbacks from the key nutrition stakeholders and the community health workers.
- **Food security analysis and preparedness:** WFP participated in the Cadre *Harmonisé* analysis with the Government, UN agencies and other food security actors in Senegal. Results indicate that currently 153,000 people are in crisis and it is projected that 340,000 people will be in crisis in the upcoming lean season (June-September 2019). WFP and the Government will need to elaborate a response plan for the lean season.
- In collaboration with the Delegation of Social Protection, WFP co-chaired a workshop to discuss lessons learned in the use of the Unique National Registry (*Registre National Unique*) for targeting of beneficiaries under the 2018 response plan. This workshop also saw the participation of RBD social protection team, UNICEF, FAO, World Bank, donors and NGOs working in the social protection sector in Senegal.

Monitoring

- As part of the Nutrifami SPRINT project, a baseline survey was conducted in 56 schools in the Matam region. The objective was to capture the knowledge of cooks and canteen managers before using the Nutrifami application. Observation checklists at the level of each school were also carried out.

Gender Commitment

- WFP participated in the official celebration of International Women's Day on 8 March in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Women and Family affairs. In an exposition on innovations that fosters women's empowerment, WFP presented the Nutrifami Application. After visiting the WFP stand, the newly re-elected president of Senegal, Macky Sall, pledged to finance the scale-up of Nutrifami with USD 90,000 to empower women cooks engaged in the preparation of school meals.

Donors

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