



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Senegal Country Brief August 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 is threatening the food security situation of households and communities. As a result, nearly half of the population continues to live in poverty and have difficulty in meeting basic food, health, education and housing needs. The northern part of the country is frequently subject to climate hazards and GAM rates surpassing 10%.

The Government is committed to improving economic growth and reducing 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: **19% of children between 6-59 months**

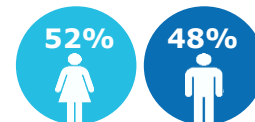
## In Numbers

**6,897 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 0 m** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 4.7 m** six months (September 2019 -February 2020) net funding requirements.

**7,451 people assisted**  
in August 2019



- Lean season operations:** According to the March 2019 *Cadre Harmonisé*, 342,000 people are projected to be food insecure in Senegal during the 2019 lean season. WFP will support the Government response in the two most affected departments (Matam and Podor) with an integrated approach of targeted food assistance and nutritional support. Using electronic money transfers, WFP will distribute about USD 350,000 to 42,000 beneficiaries with the NGO Africare as cooperating partner. Several coordination meetings were held with the *Secrétariat Exécutif du Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire – SECNSA* and other partners to prepare staff's deployment in early September. An information note on the response's progress was shared with stakeholders, including with local authorities in Podor and Matam.
- Nutrition:** In Linguère, Mbacké and Diourbel departments, WFP continued to provide assistance for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6-59 months and to prevent global acute malnutrition among pregnant and lactating women (PLW). Overall, 2,641 children aged 6-59 months received nutrition assistance, representing 85 percent of achievements. In addition, 4,810 PLW were assisted, representing 96 percent of targets.
- R4:** In Kolda and Tambacounda, two regions where the *R4 Rural Resilience Initiative* is implemented, about 9,000 smallholder farmers participated in the food assistance for assets programme. Participants completed 20 days of community work to build climate-smart assets such as dikes and stone buds. Under the risk reserve component of R4 implemented together with Oxfam, WFP enabled 11,570 beneficiaries (80 percent women) enrolled in 547 saving groups and 193 village associations, to save a total of USD 84,000. Moreover, About 8,200 farmers (rice and corn) were insured by the National Agricultural Insurance Company (CNAAS) for the 2019 season. Most beneficiaries signed up for the Insurance for Assets (IFA) option. About 52 percent of insured farmers are women. The total insured amount is around USD 2 million.

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**Main photo credit:** WFP

**Caption:** Women participating in resilience-building activities in Kolda.

**Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)**

Total Requirement 2019 (in USD)	Allocated Contributions 2019 (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>19.4 m</b>	<b>5.6 m</b>	<b>4.7 m</b>

**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.

- **Climate Services:** According to the national meteorology agency (ANACIM) delayed rainfalls are of concern, especially in the northern and western parts of Senegal. Water scarcity can damage crops and seedlings and affect the outcome of the next agricultural campaign. In Tambacounda, early plantings were water stressed due to the extended dry period. Furthermore, pasture for cattle are non-existent in most of the northern pastoral areas and breeders have to roam in search of trees and shrubs to feed their livestock. The price of agricultural products is also increasing. WFP is closely monitoring the delayed start of the 2019 raining season. Awareness-raising efforts and a comparative analysis (with the five past years) were carried out by technical units. WFP and FAO will co-chair a food security sectorial meeting in September to further assess the situation.

- **School feeding:** Following sustained advocacy from WFP in 2017-2019, the Government recognized school feeding as an important tool to address food insecurity and contribute to the development of human capital. In August, WFP continued to support the Government’s efforts for the preparation of a school feeding law and the launch of a national home-grown school feeding programme. WFP also engaged with several high-profile personalities invited to join the upcoming “Friends of school feeding” advocacy group.

- **Cash-based transfers (CBT):** As part of the digitization of WFP payments to vulnerable populations, a contract was signed with a mobile money operator. In partnership with other actors (UNCDF, Africare, OFMS), a training session was organized in Matam on the financial inclusion of beneficiaries under WFP activities. About 25 participants (including 18 community relays) attended the training. A similar training will be held in Podor in September.

**Monitoring**

- The end line survey of the Nutrifami project (an e-learning application for school canteens management) was carried out. The survey shows that cooks and canteen managers improved their knowledge of hygiene, food preparation and storage practices.
- WFP finalized the report of the WFP-Heifer project meant to introduce animal proteins in the school feeding programme.
- Preparatory activities were undertaken to launch the baseline for resilience-related activities in September. Distributions will be carried out by late October.

**Donors**

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