



# WFP Senegal Country Brief May 2020

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## Operational Context

Although stable and democratic, Senegal is one of the world's least developed countries, ranking 67 out of 117 in the 2019 Global Hunger Index. Food insecurity stands at 7.2 percent while malnutrition is at 8.2 percent, with major regional disparities within the country (ENSANR 2019). During the 2020 lean season about 770,000 people are expected to fall into food insecurity (+124 percent compared to 2019)

Senegal is frequently subject to climate hazards, especially in the north. Insufficient food production, droughts, land degradation, high food prices and low resilience have compounded the food security of vulnerable communities. As a result, 47 percent of the population lives in poverty and has difficulty in meeting basic food, health, and education needs. Moreover, many Senegalese resort to migration for survival.

The Government is committed to improve economic growth and reduce poverty through its flagship Plan for an Emerging Senegal (2014 – 2035). All WFP programmes are in line with national policies. WFP uses school feeding as an entry point in communities for a series of integrated and gender transformative activities: nutrition, resilience, capacity-strengthening and emergency operations. WFP also contributes to the national Social Security programme meant to tackle chronic poverty and make poor households more resilient to shocks. WFP operates in Senegal since 1963 and targets vulnerable rural populations.

The first COVID-19 case appeared in March 2020 in Senegal. The pandemic continues to increase despite mitigating measures by the Government, including state of emergency, curfew and closure of borders. The COVID 19 has affected the population (deteriorating food security and nutrition) and the economy (quickly decelerating: expected GDP reduction from 6 to 3 percent in 2020). WFP 's activities have been severely affected due to movement restrictions on the field.



Population: **16.7 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **166 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **19% of children between 6-59 months**

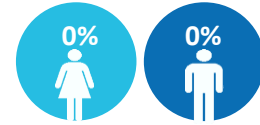
## In Numbers

**0 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 0 m** cash-based transfers

**USD 6.4 m** six months (June – November 2020) net funding requirements.

**0 people assisted**  
in May 2020



## Operational Updates

- COVID 19 response:** WFP continued to actively participate in the technical and logistics committees set up by the Government and the United Nations to facilitate the COVID-19 response, including emergency food distribution to one million households. Due to the operational restrictions in place, WFP was unable to carry out food distributions during this period.
- School feeding:** With schools closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP was unable to provide school meals to pupils through the school feeding programme. To maintain the programme's continuity during the pandemic, WFP collaborated with the Ministry of National Education (MEN) to provide individual take-home rations. Through its cash-based transfer modality, WFP will transfer funds to pupils' households to enable them to eat at least one nutritious daily meal with their families. Transfers are expected to start in June. In addition, in support of the forthcoming reopening of schools, WFP and the advocacy network, Group of Friends of School Feeding Friends (GAASS), supported the MEN through the provision of 300 hand-washing devices to be distributed to WFP beneficiary schools: (<https://bit.ly/2y1RziZ>)
- Nutrition:** WFP activities for the treatment of acute malnutrition were suspended to prevent the COVID-19 contaminations at the community level. However, preparations were carried out to ensure the implementation of the prevention of acute malnutrition activities during the upcoming lean season (June -August). WFP will target 5,100 children aged 6-23 months living in households also targeted for food assistance during the lean season. In partnership with USAID, WFP elaborated an action plan for maternal and child nutrition assistance. Activities will include people living with HIV. Preparations for the introduction of fortified rice in schools in October 2020 are also underway. Awareness-raising activities on nutrition also continued, leading to the expansion of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Private Sector Network. Four new companies joined the network in May bringing the total number of members to 10.
- Resilience:** Due to the transport restrictions tied to the COVID-19 pandemic, resilience-building activities such as food assistance for assets (FFA), did not take place in May 2020.

## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement 2020 (in USD)	Allocated Contributions 2020 (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>16.9 m</b>	<b>3.4 m</b>	<b>6.4 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.

However, WFP proceeded with the preparatory requirements (field level agreement, consultation meetings with key partners, etc.) to launch the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project as soon as the situation permits. The GCF operational plan has been reviewed. WFP also partnered with Africare and World Vision to be ready to launch food assistance for assets (FFA) operations, immediately after the lean season activities. Some 59,400 beneficiaries (6,600 households) living in Matam, Podor and Salemata will be benefitting from this activity.

According to the *Agence Nationale de l'Aviation Civile et de la Météorologie* (ANACIM) analysis, Sahelian countries should expect delayed rainfalls and dry spells in 2020. WFP will implement rural development activities accordingly and is already supporting farmers' agricultural campaign by providing them with useful climate information.

## Emergency preparedness

- The Government presented the national Emergency Plan for Food Security (PUSA) at Humanitarian-Development forum and encouraged the stakeholders to pursue their humanitarian assistance during the lean season. The 2020 PUSA targets 529,625 households at risk of falling into food crisis, according to the latest Cadre Harmonisé analysis. The situation may be worse as the CH analysis does not fully include the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 (<https://bit.ly/2yMVlgo>; <https://bit.ly/2XKV0TI>).
- WFP will support the implementation of the PUSA by distributing cash transfers (e-cash) to vulnerable households located in the Departments of Podor, Matam and Salémata. Depending on available resources, WFP targets about 75,000 beneficiaries for three months (July -September).
- In partnership with the National Food Security Council (CSA) and the World Bank, WFP launched a remote market analysis to evaluate food price fluctuations generated by the COVID-19 outbreak. The analysis will allow WFP to adjust its interventions in the upcoming months: (<https://bit.ly/3gBqQeb> ; <https://bit.ly/2TPCicp>).
- As part of the digitization process of its cash-based transfers, WFP launched a call to identify new financial partners and mobile operators. Contracts extensions are underway for Orange, FREE and the *Union des institutions mutualistes communautaires d'épargne et de crédit* (U-IMCEC) to cover activities from August to December 2020.
- WFP urgently needs USD 6,4 million to fully implement planned activities. The lack of funding will negatively affect WFP planned operations. The funding gap will also prevent WFP from participating in the 2020 lean season's operations. Discussions are ongoing with donors to secure funding.

## Monitoring & Evaluation

- A remote survey was organized to collect information on the implementation of the school feeding programme during the second quarter of the school year. About 500 school directors/managers were interviewed by enumerators before the closure of schools on 15 March 2020.
- Another remote survey (baseline) was prepared to collect data from households selected to receive cash transfers during schools' closure .

## Donors

France, Green Climate Fund, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, City Hall of Madrid, UN Funds