



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



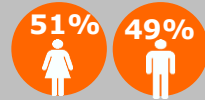
WFP Senegal Country Brief November 2020

In Numbers

USD 650,600 cash-based transfers

USD 21 m six months (December 2020 - May 2021) net funding requirements.

100,550 people assisted in November 2020



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Operational Context

Although stable and democratic, Senegal is one of the world's least developed countries, ranking 67 out of 117 countries in the 2019 Global Hunger Index and with 37 percent of its population living in poverty (ANSD 2018). Food insecurity and malnutrition stand at 7.2 percent and 8.2 percent respectively, with major regional disparities (ENSANR 2019). Senegal is frequently subject to climate hazards, especially in the semi-arid North. Insufficient food production, droughts, land degradation, high food prices and low resilience have further compounded food insecurity. According to November 2020 *Cadre Harmonisé*, the number of food insecure people is expected to increase to 850,000 people during the 2021 lean season (by 11 percent compared to 2020).

The Government is committed to improve economic growth through its flagship Plan for an Emerging Senegal (2014–2035). All WFP programmes are in line with national priorities and plans. 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 strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities.

Despite mitigation measures put in place by the Government, rising COVID-19 cases are deteriorating food insecurity levels and the economy (GDP growth projections have dropped from 6 to 1 percent in 2020). WFP is complementing national efforts by providing emergency cash assistance to vulnerable populations and technical support to the Government.



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**

Operational Updates

- **COVID-19 response:** WFP continued to participate in the technical and logistics committees set up by the Government and the United Nations to facilitate the COVID-19 response, including the implementation of the national emergency plan.
- **School feeding:** In partnership with the Ministry of National Education, WFP intends to assist 1,264 schools and some 235,000 pupils during the current school year (2020-2021). This represents 54 percent increase compared to 2019. The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is partly funding the intervention, to support the fight against COVID-19's impacts. School feeding operations started in November.
- In addition, advocacy actions and preparations are in progress for the launch in 2021 of a national home-grown school feeding programme based on Senegalese agriculture. On 25 November, WFP Senegal's Country Director signed a protocol with the international painter Kalidou Kassé to kick-off an art contest on school canteens' benefits. Mr. Kasse is a member of the high-level Group of School feeding Friends of Senegal (GAASS), an informal advocacy network created in 2019 that mainly attracts Senegalese personalities from the world of sports, political life, culture and diplomacy.
- **Nutrition:** In partnership with the Ministry of Health, WFP assisted 5,103 children aged 6-59 months through 61.2 MT of nutritious products in 39 health districts. Moreover, to better meet Government's priorities, WFP organised a lessons learnt workshop of the integrated approach (nutrition combined with cash transfers and resilience activities) implemented in the departments of Matam, Podor, and Salémata.
- **Resilience:** Preparations are ongoing to launch the implementation of the joint WFP, IFAD and FAO resilience-building initiative (2021-2023) targeting the Matam (Podor and Kanel) and Tambacounda (Goudiry) regions. As part of the *Food assistance for assets* (FFA) component, some 59,400 persons received cash after participating to intensive community works and assets creation. Targeted beneficiaries come from vulnerable households already assisted by WFP during the lean season intervention. By providing an integrated assistance package to shock-affected households, WFP builds their resilience and ensures that they are better equipped to improve their livelihoods means and face future trials.

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Main photo credit: WFP/Senegal
Caption: Nutrition beneficiaries in Matam

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
29.3 m	7.9 m	21

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

Activities

- Provide seasonal food or CBT assistance to complement the Government's social transfers to food-insecure populations.
- 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 which will be deactivated from December 31, 2020)

Strategic Outcome 5: Crisis-affected households and communities in targeted areas can meet their basic food and nutrition needs both during and in the aftermath of crises

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities

- Provide general food distributions, nutritious food and/or cash transfers to crisis-affected beneficiaries.
- Provide specialized nutritious food to crisis-affected households to prevent acute malnutrition.

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.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities

- Provide beneficiaries with specialized nutritious foods and programmes to prevent and treat acute and chronic malnutrition.
- Support the Government in addressing micronutrient deficiencies and enhance the availability of diverse, safe and healthy foods.
- Provide nutritious school meals to vulnerable Senegalese children in targeted departments during the school year, in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding)

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

Activities

- Provide livelihood and climate adaptation support to targeted groups through integrated risk management and 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

Activities

- 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.

Assessments and Monitoring

- In collaboration with the Government, WFP participated in the November *Cadre Harmonisé* exercise. The results indicated that about 516,000 persons are currently (October-December 2020) food insecure and over 850,000 will be affected by food insecurity in the projected period (June - August 2021).
- Following the lean season response (PUSA) carried out from August to October 2020 and reaching 54,748 vulnerable people (79 percent of the target) through cash assistance (mobile money), assessment meetings were carried out in November with administrative authorities and local actors. Findings confirm that the PUSA intervention was highly appreciated by beneficiaries and other stakeholders, for its integrated approach to food security, nutrition, and resilience. Moreover, digital transfers are adapted to the COVID-19 context, enhance financial inclusion, boost local economies and agriculture, while empowering women and youth.
- WFP and the French Embassy jointly monitored nutrition activities and met with key partners in Matam.

Gender

- WFP participated in the global campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender-based violence". Various communications actions, including a panel discussion with WFP's Director of Gender Division and a national expert, were taken to promote gender mainstreaming among staff and partners.

Miscellaneous

- The procurement process is underway to identify new financial partners to implement cash-based activities in 2021 (e-cash, e-voucher and cash payment).
- The country office developed a Concept of Operations (CONOPS) to anticipate post-electoral instability in neighbouring Guinea.
- WFP Senegal welcomed on 1 November 2020 its new Country Director, Ms. Fatiha Terki, who has initiated a series of consultations and strategic meetings with key food security and nutrition stakeholders.

Funding gaps

- WFP is facing serious funding shortfalls. In the next six months (November 2020 to April 2021), WFP requires USD 23.5 million to implement programmes at planned scale. If funds are not received soon, WFP will have to seriously reduce the number of planned beneficiaries, prioritizing nutrition interventions, school feeding and resilience.

Donors

Donors to WFP Senegal in 2020 include France, Green Climate Fund, Luxembourg, Monaco, Private Donors, the Government of Senegal, Spain. Additional support has been provided by UNOPS.