



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Senegal Country Brief March 2021



## Operational Context

Senegal is a stable and democratic country. However it is among the world's least developed countries, ranking 65<sup>th</sup> out of 107 countries in the 2020 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 March 2021 *Cadre Harmonisé*, the number of food insecure people is expected to increase to 488, 048 people during the 2021 lean season.

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. 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 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**

2019 Human Development Index ranking:  
**168 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

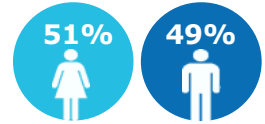
## In Numbers

**15.3 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 189,335** cash-based transfers made

**USD 6.4 m** six months (April-September 2021) net funding requirements

**254,318 people assisted**  
in March 2021



## Operational Updates

- **Food security situation and Lean season response:** According to the results of the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) exercise conducted in March 2021, about 305,136 people are in need of food assistance during this current period, and nearly 488, 048 will be in phase 3-4 during the lean season, (June -August). Preparatory activities are ongoing to provide assistance to 134,566 vulnerable persons from June over three month through cash transfers. The departments of Matam, Podor, Ranérou, Salémata and Saraya will be prioritized as these department have the highest levels of food insecurity. Resources mobilization efforts will be pursued to allow expanding WFP's response.

Lean season response: Working tightly with the Government's PUSA (Plan d'Urgence pour la Sécurité alimentaire) and other actors, WFP started its lean season response preparation to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on food security and nutrition situation.

- **School feeding:** In partnership with the Ministry of National Education, WFP assisted 234,533 schoolchildren enrolled in 1,262 primary rural schools including 636 assisted schools. The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) funded the project, and the official launch ceremony has been held with the Minister of Education, the French Development Agency (AFD) Director and the WFP Country Director.

As part of the "model canteens" pilot's scale-up, WFP identified 15 additional schools to benefit from the assistance package consisting in poultry, vegetable garden, biodigester, etc.

- **Resilience:** Under the food assistance for assets (FFA) programme, a total of 9,774 beneficiaries were assisted. Out of these, in Tambacounda, 782 households (7,038 beneficiaries) received transfers of USD 41,600, while in Kolda 304 households (2,736 beneficiaries) received transfers amounting to USD 17,520. WFP organized together with the National Agriculture Insurance Company (CNAAS), a National Index Insurance Development and Promotion Committee (CDPAI) meeting on the digitalization of payments in Index Agricultural Insurance with the participation of USAID, the World Bank and many other actors.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/Senegal](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Senegal)

**Main photo: Credit:** WFP/Senegal

**Caption:** Community works in Thiambé

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

2021 Total Requirement (in USD)	2021 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>21 m</b>	<b>19.1 m</b>	<b>1 m</b>

\*Following the COVID-19 outbreak, a budget revision was carried out in 2020.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food insecure populations in targeted areas have access to adequate food during the lean season.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provide seasonal food/cash assistance and complement the Government's social transfers to food insecure populations.

**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 programs 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 home-grown school meals to vulnerable Senegalese children in targeted departments during the school year.

### 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

**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.

### Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnerships

**Strategic Outcome 6:** Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services throughout the year

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**

- Provide supply chain services to partners

- **Nutrition:** A partnership convention has been signed with the National Council of Nutrition Development for the implementation of the moderate acute malnutrition treatment activities for children from 6-59 months old and the prevention of moderate acute malnutrition for children from 6-23 months old, not malnourished and the pregnant women and those breastfeeding six-months children living in the departments of Matam, Ranérou, Kédougou, Saraya and Salémata. As a whole, 4,908 children from 6-59 months old suffering from moderate acute malnutrition, 30,937 children aged 6-23 months and 13,264 pregnant and lactating women are in the prevention plan.

## Monitoring

- Following the results of the Cadre Harmonisé exercise conducted in March 2021, WFP will proceed in April with the targeting exercise to select the most vulnerable persons to be assisted during the lean season. WFP will continue promoting the integrated approach (GFD, nutrition, FFA) to strengthen the impact of its assistance.
- A CBT feasibility study is under preparation and will be launched in April to collect accurate information on the market functionality and network reliability in targeted areas.
- A monitoring visit of the school feeding programme conducted in central regions noted, despite the provided trainings, some constraints related to the utilization of the digital payments by some retailers, which delayed the food deliveries to schools. Required actions are ongoing to address this situation.
- With the rapid expansion of its intervention due to the impact of the COVID-19, WFP is in the process of opening a sub-office in Matam (north) and an antenna in Kaolack (centre) to reinforce its monitoring activities.

## Challenges

- The main challenge faced by the country office refers to the lack of resources. WFP will have to significantly reduce its assistance if funding is not received.

## Partnerships

- The selection process of the financial services providers (FSP) is still ongoing with the support from RBD and HQ. It will allow to set new contracts for CBT interventions.

## Donors

Top five donors to WFP Senegal Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023 include Canada, France, Green Climate Fund, Luxembourg and Global Partnership for Education (via the Government of Senegal). Additional support has been provided by UNOPS.

The Senegal 2020 Annual Country Report is available [here](#).