In Numbers

- 197,406 mt of food assistance distributed
- USD 1.7 m cash-based transfers made
- USD 7.8 m six months (October 2021- March 2022) net funding requirements
- 120,325 people assisted in September

Operational Updates

- To mitigate the lean season for vulnerable populations, WFP worked closely with the Government and humanitarian partners to address food insecurity and malnutrition challenges. In support of the Government's National Response Plan, WFP launched the second and third distributions to assist 92,740 vulnerable people (51 percent women and 49 percent men) located in Ranérou, Salimata, Matam, Podor and Saraya departments through cash-based transfers of USD 1.7 million in total.

- With the aim of strengthening its engagement in the area of social protection, WFP met the General Delegation for Social Protection and National Solidarity. A decree has been signed to set-up a technical committee to implement joint activities on social protection, a topic that concerns all of WFP’s activities.

- WFP continued to work closely with the Ministry of Education (MEN) to launch the National School Feeding Programme, following the commitment of the President of Senegal to the Global School Feeding Coalition. The MEN has requested WFP to be the implementing partner, and provided funding for the implementation. The Government will soon officially launch this nation-wide programme.

- An endline survey for the COVID-19 response was carried out and the report is due for October 2021. The survey will assess to what extent the response plan (Financed by the Ministry of National Education with funds received from the Global Partnership for Education) mitigated the effects of the crisis on students’ schooling and ensured the continuity of educational services.

- The scale-up of WFP’s “model school canteens” initiative from 15 to 30 schools is underway. This initiative is an integrated project that provides schools with a poultry house, a community field, a school gardens and a sustainable energy solution such as biogas digesters.

- As part of the resilience building activities, WFP partnered with Senegal’s decentralized technical services to enhance the monitoring of field activities implemented by WFP in Ogo (Matam region).

- WFP participated in the Joint Programme for the Sahel in Response to the Challenges of COVID-19, Conflict and Climate Change (SD3C) introduction meeting together with the Government of Senegal, IFAD and FAO. WFP began to establish partnerships with NGOs for the implementation of this project which aims to strengthen the livelihoods of smallholder farmers.

Operational Context

Senegal is a stable and democratic country. However it is among the world’s least developed countries, ranking 66th out of 116 countries in the 2021 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. This number is expected to increase to 770,401 people during the 2022 lean season.

Despite mitigation measures put in place by the Government, the COVID-19 crisis is deteriorating food insecurity levels. However, after a 5.1% expansion in the previous period due to a low base year effect from the previous year when the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic became apparent, the economy advanced by 10.9% in the second quarter of 2021. WFP is complementing national efforts by providing emergency cash assistance to vulnerable populations as well as technical assistance to the Government in order to support the economy and mitigate the effects of food insecurity.

Population: 16.7 million | 2020 Human Development Index ranking: 168 out of 189
Income Level: Lower middle | Chronic malnutrition: 19% of children between 6-59 months

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Main photo: Credit: WFP/Senegal
Caption: Men in a millet field, WFP 4R program in Dialakouma
The environmental and social assessment of the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative funded by the Green Climate Fund has been carried out. The assessment of environmental risks and impacts will help WFP monitor the impact of its interventions on people and the environment and take corrective measures if needed.

Through WFP’s moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment activities, a total of 1,412 malnourished children (56 percent girls and 44 percent boys) aged 6-59 months were treated through specialized nutritious foods in the departments of Matam and Kedougou. The MAM activities are carried out in collaboration with the National Council for the Development of Nutrition (CNDN).

Through prevention of stunting activities, 10,297 children aged 6-23 months (48 percent girls and 52 percent boys) received nutritional assistance (Super Cereal Plus) in the departments of Matam, Ranerou, Saraya and Salemata. Furthermore, 15,876 pregnant and lactating women received nutritional assistance for the prevention of undernutrition in the same localities.

Monitoring

- The results of the post-distribution monitoring (PDM) survey on WFP's lean season response were published. The PDM shows that the financial partners faced some constraints during the first distribution. However, 88 percent of the surveyed beneficiaries reported that they were satisfied with the assistance received. In order to further improve implementation, WFP continued to work with financial partners to strengthen their human resources for the effective delivery of assistance to beneficiaries.
- As part of its community feedback mechanism, WFP continued to respond to calls from beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries through the dedicated toll-free number.

Challenges

- Serious funding constraints over the next 6 months continues to be WFP's main challenge in Senegal. If sufficient funding is not received, WFP's nutrition and school feeding activities will be impacted and more than 723,000 beneficiaries will be affected.

Partnerships

- All the activities were carried out with the support of WFP cooperating partners (PanAfricanre, World Vision, Action Contre la Faim), the executive secretariate of the national council on food security administrative authorities and local actors.

Donors

Top five donors to WFP Senegal Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023 include Canada, The Green Climate Fund through the Government of Senegal, The Government of Senegal, France and Luxembourg. Additional support was provided by UN CERF and private donors.

The Senegal 2020 Annual Country Report is available here.