



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Senegal Country Brief September 2024

### Operational Context

Senegal is a stable and democratic country, ranking 69th out of 125 countries in the 2023 Global Hunger Index. Senegal was ranked 130 out of 191 countries in the 2022 Gender Inequality Index (GII). The country is frequently subject to climate hazards, especially in the semi-arid North. Insufficient food production, droughts, land degradation, high food prices and low resilience further compound food insecurity. During the 2024 lean season (June – August), an estimated 506,632 individuals in Goudiry, Salémata, and Ranérou Departments are expected to face crisis-level food insecurity, as reported by the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) 2024. Moreover, several other departments classified “under pressure” are on the brink of similar crises, placing significant populations at risk of food insecurity.

Senegal’s new government, that took office in April 2024, is committed to promoting a robust, diversified economy benefitting all citizens, through the “Senegal Systemic Transformation Project, which aligns with the objectives of the previous government’s “Plan for an Emerging Senegal (2014 – 2035)” and WFP strategic objectives.

WFP leverages school meal programs in communities to initiate a variety of integrated and gender-transformative activities, including nutrition, rural development, capacity strengthening, and emergency operations. Additionally, WFP supports the national social protection program in Senegal, which targets chronic poverty and aims to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities. Despite national efforts to mitigate their effects, the COVID-19 and Ukraine crisis have significantly exacerbated food insecurity in Senegal. In response, WFP is aiding national initiatives by providing emergency cash assistance to those in need and delivering technical support to the Government to strengthen the economy and combat food insecurity.



Population: **18.2 million**

2023/2024 Human Development Report: **169 out of 193**

Income Level: **lower middle-income**

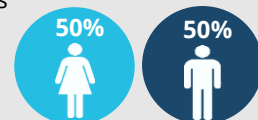
Chronic malnutrition: **19 percent of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**90,486 people assisted** in September 2024

**92,000 US\$** cash-based transfers made in September

**US\$ 11.6 million** six-month (October 2024 – March 2025) net funding requirements



### Operational Updates

- **Strengthening Resilience and Livelihoods:** Several milestones were achieved in the Salouma project. A market player mapping was completed, and a Zero Energy Cooling Chamber (ZZEC) was established as a pilot site in Kayemor GIE, Kaolack. This is a storage chamber made of bricks and sand. Additionally, partners and beneficiaries received training on post-harvest handling and storage. The Salouma project, in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, aims to create, sustain, and improve job opportunities for 75,724 young people in Senegal by addressing market access barriers in six regions.
- The “4R Rural Resilience Initiative” project, in partnership with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), has concluded. The project aimed to build climate resilience for food-insecure smallholder farmers through integrated climate risk management. Key milestones marking the project's end included drafting the Completion Report, initiating the final evaluation with stakeholder meetings, conducting a 10-day field visit to assess project impacts, and holding the final steering committee meeting in Kaolack.
- **Nutrition:** A chronogram for food assistance activities for people living with HIV (PLHIV) was developed. Beneficiary targeting was completed, and all involved public health stakeholders were trained, enabling the project to be launched.
- WFP participated in a national workshop revising the protocol for the management of acute malnutrition in accordance with the latest World Health Organizations (WHO) guidelines.
- **General Food Distribution:** Financial Service Provider (FSP) Wave’s performance was assessed to improve the partnership.
- The Cash Working Group, a coordination platform linking various humanitarian organizations and stakeholders to ensure effective and efficient cash-based assistance, held its monthly meeting.

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**Photo Caption:** Market-garden activities, Diende Sedhiou  
WFP/Souleymane Diamanka

## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
<b>143 million</b>	<b>66 million</b>
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Oct 2024 – Mar 2025)
<b>37 million</b>	<b>11.6 million</b>

**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 2024.

**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.

- The monthly Cash Working Group meeting was held to validate several key aspects of the ongoing operations. The meeting confirmed the shortlist for the Financial Sector Intelligence (FSI) evaluation, a crucial assessment conducted every two years as part of the preparation for selecting and contracting the Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) program. The FSI evaluation serves two main purposes: it analyses the country's economic, regulatory, and financial sector environment to assess its readiness for CBT operations, and it provides a recommended list of FSPs based on a transparent evaluation process using Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Finally, the group made the decision on the FSP selection for the food assistance for PLVIH project, marking an important step in the project's implementation.
- **School Feeding (SF):** WFP conducted a mission in collaboration with the Senegalese Agency for Reforestation and the Great Green Wall (ASERGMV) to assess the infrastructure of four schools targeted for phase 1 of the Model School Canteens Project, funded by Monaco, in the Kolda region. The mission also focused on identifying the need for fruit tree plantations across a total of 11 schools —seven from phase 1 and four additional schools included in this new phase of the project.

**Monitoring**

- Field offices were trained on nutrition, the use of CBTs, supply chain, and COMET, WFP's comprehensive online database tool to design, implement and monitor programmes and to improve organisational performance.
- The final evaluation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project has started.

**Challenges**

For the 2024-2025 school year, WFP Senegal aims to continue its school feeding program. However, due to limited funding, WFP may have to reduce the number of beneficiaries from 142,000 to 35,000 students, temporarily excluding around 107,000 children. To avoid this, WFP Senegal urgently needs US\$4 million to support 250,000 primary school students in 11 of the country's 14 regions, ensuring access to nutritious meals that improve their focus and academic performance.

**Donors**

Donors to WFP Senegal in 2024 include France, Green Climate Fund, Luxembourg, the Mastercard Foundation, and Monaco.