



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES



## WFP Senegal Country Brief October - December 2024

### Operational Context

Senegal is a stable and democratic country. In the 2024 Global Hunger Index, it ranks 72<sup>nd</sup> out of 127 countries, with a score of 15.3 indicating a moderate level of hunger. Regarding gender equality, Senegal holds the 104<sup>th</sup> position out of 146 countries in the 2023 Global Gender Gap Index. The country continues to face significant climate-related challenges, particularly in its semi-arid northern regions. Factors such as insufficient food production, recurrent droughts, land degradation, high food prices, and low resilience exacerbate food insecurity.

According to the March 2024 Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis, around 519,000 individuals experienced acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 and above) during the June–August 2024 lean season. Several departments classified “under pressure” were on the brink of similar seasonal stressors, placing significant populations at risk of food insecurity. The situation is likely to worsen during the June – August 2025 lean season due to unprecedented floods in 2024.

Senegal's new government, that took office in April 2024, is committed to promoting a robust, diversified economy benefitting all citizens, through the National Transformation Agenda Senegal 2050 (*Jubbanti*), which aligns with WFP's strategic objectives.

WFP uses school meals to drive nutrition, rural development, and resilience, while supporting Senegal's social protection efforts. It is shifting from direct assistance to strengthening national systems and promoting climate-smart agriculture. Completed in 2024, the 4R Rural Resilience Initiative, funded by the Green Climate Fund, will be promoted as a model for sustainable, climate-smart agriculture to reduce food insecurity across rural Senegal.



Population: **18.2 million**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

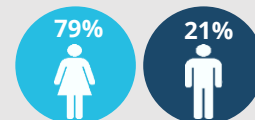
Chronic malnutrition: **19 percent of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**32,843 people assisted** from Oct to Dec 2024

**15,584 US\$** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 17.3 million** six-month (Jan 2025 – Jun 2025) net funding requirements



### Operational Updates

- WFP officially launched the introduction of fortified rice in Matam Department's schools in October. The project aims to combat micronutrient deficiencies and promote nutritional security for school children. During the initial phase, the project will reach 61,418 students in 236 schools in Matam Region. An expansion is planned to include other regions in the future.
- WFP has initiated the first round of cash transfers, totalling 3,000,000 FCFA, to support 100 people living with HIV under Phase 3 of the food assistance project in Kolda Department.
- A stabilization and validation meeting for the fortified rice action plan was held with the participation of WFP, the National Council for Nutrition Development (CNDN), and the Senegalese Committee for the Fortification of Food in Micronutrients (COSFAM). In parallel, efforts are ongoing with the Senegalese Agency for Standardization (ASN), as the contracting process for the development of a national standard on fortified rice has been initiated.
- WFP has initiated the development of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to enhance the quality of hydro-agricultural infrastructure and equipment procurement. The approach envisions involving experts from MASHAV, Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, as certification agents to ensure compliance with high standards.

### Monitoring

WFP participated in the National Survey on Food Security, Resilience and Social Protection in collaboration with the National Food Security Council (SECNSA), the Support Program for the National Agricultural and Rural Advisory System (PAPNASAR), the Directorate of Agriculture (DA), the Directorate of Analysis, Forecasting, and Statistics in Agriculture (DAPSA), Helen Keller International (HKI), the National Civil Aviation and Meteorology Agency (ANACIM), and the General Delegation for Social Protection and National Solidarity (DGPSN).

**Photo Caption:** A primary school girl enjoying fonio, a healthy and nutritious grain grown locally, as part of a school meal supported by WFP.  
WFP/Robine Bonsenge

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## 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 Requirement (US\$) (Jan 2025 – Jun 2025)
<b>37 million</b>	<b>17.3 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

## Challenges

Due to limited available funding, WFP is compelled to reduce the number of supported schoolchildren. If additional funds are not mobilized, the number of beneficiaries could decrease from 142,000 students assisted last year to just 35,000 students, representing a 75 percent reduction. As a result, approximately 107,000 children would be temporarily excluded from the school canteen program. This situation highlights the urgent need to secure adequate funding to ensure the continuity of the school feeding program and prevent jeopardizing the education of the most vulnerable children.

## Partnerships

A bootcamp was organized in Matam on "Sustainable land and water management" with Université Gaston Berger (UGB) as part of the Sahel University Network (REUNIR). REUNIR is a network of six universities from five countries: Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Mali. One of its key pillars is to promote the deployment of master's and PhD students from universities to WFP integrated resilience sites to conduct research and dissemination for their theses. This allows students to gain practical experience and promote action-oriented research that can inform resilience programming, improve the technical quality of interventions and capitalize on concrete solutions for food security and resilience in the Sahel. The bootcamp held in October was a moment of sharing and exchange between 68 participants, including 23 women, with UGB faculty and students, local authorities, various communities of Tekinguel, Diandioli and Bokidiawe, cooperating partners, technical services and other UN agencies (UNDP, UNHCR). It enabled practical skills to be acquired in soil conservation, water management, and market garden production, thereby contributing to community resilience in the face of climate change.

## Donors

Donors to WFP Senegal for the 2019-2024 Country Strategic Plan include DSM-Firmenich, France, Green Climate Fund, IFAD, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Mastercard Foundation, Monaco and UBRAF, UNFCU.