

WFP Senegal Country Brief January - March 2025

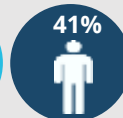


In Numbers

88,583 people assisted

US\$ 175,535 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 13.4 million six-month (Apr – Sept 2025) net funding requirement



Operational Context

Senegal is a stable and democratic country, creating a conducive environment for development efforts. However, 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 to climate shocks and economic stressors exacerbate food insecurity.

According to the March 2025 Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis, some 1.3 million people are projected to experience severe food insecurity (CH Phase 3 and above) during the June–August lean season, more than doubling the figure recorded in 2024 (518,509 people). Further, the number of departments in *Crisis* is expected to rise from two to ten.

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.

Throughout its new Country Strategic Plan (2025-2029), WFP leverages school meals to enhance nutrition, foster rural development, and build resilience, while supporting Senegal's social protection efforts. WFP 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 aged 6-59 months

Operational Updates

- **School meals:** WFP supported the provision of school meals for 65,000 schoolchildren across 247 public primary schools in Kolda and Matam. In Matam, 73 education staff (22 percent women) were trained on School Connect, a digital platform enhancing tracking of school meal stocks, daily attendance, and enrolment. This will enable 45 additional schools to adopt digital monitoring, improving planning and delivery.
- **Nutrition:** WFP provided the National Council for Nutrition Development (CNDN) with over 150 metric tons of specialized nutritious foods, to be delivered by June to children aged 6–59 months across 19 departments as part of the moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) supplementation programme. In the first quarter of 2025, 20,797 children (51 percent girls) suffering from MAM were supplemented.
- **Resilience:** In the Ferlo Zone, WFP led community planning sessions for a new agro-pastoral resilience project funded by Ireland, targeting the restoration of 100 hectares of degraded land. In Matam, WFP worked with local technical services to conduct irrigation diagnostics under the “Resilient Territories” Matam Compact, with the aim of designing climate-resilient production villages. Further, as part of the Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme (AICRM), WFP launched the inception study for the implementation of the microinsurance component.
- In **Salémata**, WFP conducted an assessment mission with the Ministry of Agriculture, where land tenure was secured for the launch of the flagship Community Agricultural Cooperative (CAC). The project aims to develop 500 hectares and support local communities through cooperatives, with a focus on youth employment, food production, and agro processing.

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Photo Caption: Strengthening the resilience of agro-pastoralist communities in the Ferlo Zone.

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Country Strategic Plan (2025-2029)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
150 million	9 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirement (US\$) (Apr – Sept 2025)
39 million	13.4 million

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations in targeted areas meet their urgent food and nutrition needs before, during, and after shocks.

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities: Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations and at-risk groups, including through national shock-responsive social protection.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Populations at risk of malnutrition and school-aged children in targeted areas have improved nutrition status contributing to strengthened human capital by 2029.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide integrated nutrition package to vulnerable and marginalized groups at risk of malnutrition, including by strengthening community-level nutrition knowledge and services.
- Provide diverse, locally source school meals to children in schools.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder Productivity

Strategic Outcome 3: Communities, individuals and food system actors in targeted areas vulnerable to shocks and stressors benefit from climate smart agriculture enabling resilient livelihoods, improved diets and more sustainable food systems by 2029.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities: Provide nutrition-sensitive livelihoods support and climate adaptation services to individuals, communities, and food value chain actors, especially youth and women.

Strategic Result 4: Countries have strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 4: National systems and institutions have strengthened capacity to integrate food security, nutrition, and resilience in national policies and achieve Zero Hunger, reduce climate vulnerability, and further develop Senegal's human capital by 2029.

Focus area: *Resilience-Building*

Activities: Provide technical assistance, capacity strengthening, and evidence-based policy and programmatic support to nutrition-sensitive social protection, and EPR institutional partners and stakeholders.

- **Mastercard Foundation-funded Salouma Project:** WFP supported over 2,000 participants – 60 percent women and 90 percent youth – through training in good agricultural practices and post-harvest management to prepare for the upcoming agricultural season. To improve market access, WFP facilitated business-to-business sessions with key commodity buyers and finalized business plans for local post-harvest loss management units in Saint Louis, Ziguinchor, Matam, and Kolda. In parallel, an inventory and mapping of value chains actors involved in rural finance schemes was developed to support participants' access to financing.

Partnerships

WFP continues to support the Ministry of Education in finalizing a national school feeding policy, strategy, and legal framework, in line with SABER recommendations. Technical agreements were signed with the Senegalese Association for Standardization (ASN) to develop a national standard for fortified rice, and with the Food Technology Institute (ITA) to conduct a study on micronutrient retention in fortified rice. These efforts aim to strengthen national initiatives in food fortification and nutrition.

Monitoring and Evaluation

WFP Senegal is participating in a multi-country decentralized evaluation (with Benin and Cameroon) on school feeding. WFP actively contributed to the **March 2025 Cadre Harmonisé** analysis, providing technical inputs to inform national food security planning. In parallel, WFP supported the preparation of the launch of two major nutrition initiatives. First, a **Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) analysis** has just started in collaboration with the Commission for Food Security and Resilience (CSAR), under the leadership of the Executive Secretariat of the National Council for Nutrition Development (SE-CNDN), to identify cost-effective strategies for improving access to nutritious diets. Second, WFP supported the **modelling and mapping of the risk of insufficient micronutrient intake (MIMI)**, in collaboration with SE-CNDN and the Laboratory of Human Nutrition and Food (LARNAH), and under the guidance of the Senegalese Committee for Food Fortification with Micronutrients (COSFAM).

Challenges

Funding shortfalls remain critical, especially for school meals, leaving 84,000 children temporarily out of the programme.

Donors

WFP Senegal for the 2025-2029 Country Strategic Plan: DSM-Firmenich, France, IFAD, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Mastercard Foundation, Monaco, UBRAF, UNFCU.