



OVERVIEW OF
Senegal

Overview of Senegal



YEAR OF
1960
INDEPENDENCE



Languages

French (official), Wolof, Pulaar, Jola, Mandinka, Serer, Soninke

Demographic, Economic & Education Indicators

Indicator	Value	Rank
Infant Mortality Rate	50/1000	
Under 5 Mortality Rate	75/1000	42
Maternal Mortality Rate	401/100,000 live births	
Human Development Index (HDI)	0.459—Low Human Development	155/187
Life expectancy at birth	59 years	
Adult literacy rate	50%	
Primary gross enrollment rate	92.5%	
Primary school completion rate	59.6%	
Unemployment rate	48%	
Unemployment, youth	15%	

Location & Geography

Located on the far western coast of the African continent, on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, Senegal is mainly a flat Sahelian country. It is bordered in the North by Mauritania, in the East by Mali, in the South by Guinea and Guinea-Bissau and crossed in the middle by the Gambia. Its West point is the westernmost point of continental Africa. The country stretches over 196,192 km². Compared with its neighbors, Mali and Mauritania, Senegal is a small country.

Economy

The economy of Senegal is driven by agriculture while tourism remains a source of foreign exchange. In April 2012, Macky Sall won the presidential election, becoming the fourth President of Senegal since 1960.

Brief History of ChildFund in Senegal

ChildFund came to Senegal: 1985

Number of states/provinces etc: 14

Number of enrolled children (FY12): 25,942

Number of beneficiaries (FY12): 8,108,608

ChildFund started operations in Senegal in 1985 and has supported multi sectoral sustainable community development projects that help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children grow into responsible adults and leaders who transform their communities positively. ChildFund Senegal works countrywide to bring happiness to and improve the lives of impoverished children and families through sponsorship and grant funded programs, covering all 14 administrative regions of Senegal.

Brief Program Overview

ChildFund Senegal's programming focuses on areas that are essential to ensuring holistic child and youth survival and development, such as health and nutrition, education, child protection, economic development and leadership.

ChildFund Senegal's strategic objectives for the next five years are:

Infants

- Promote early management of childhood illnesses and nutritional monitoring of children under age five, implementing community based approaches grounded on best and evidence based practices in child health.
- Improve maternal and newborn health.
- Expand and improve a comprehensive early childcare and education approach, especially for DEV children.

Children

- Improve learning and teaching quality and school completion rate in basic education.
- Bridge non-formal and formal education by promoting trilinguism (Wolof, Arabic, and French) and professional training in Daara.
- Improve school governance through community, children and youth active participation in school management committees, Parent Teacher Associations and school governments.

Youth

- Improve the livelihood and entrepreneurial skills of youth in alignment with ChildFund's Youth Employment Model.
- Promote community-based teenage and youth friendly reproductive health services.
- Strengthen youth leadership skills and align them with ChildFund's Youth Program Offer.

Community and civil society

- Engage families and Federations in the wellbeing, development and protection of infants, children and youth.
- Meet the humanitarian needs of children and their families during hazards, disasters and emergencies in areas where (or near where) ChildFund operates.
- Promote child centered and community based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management.
- Improve the management and implementation of appropriate post-emergency recovery responses.

Brief Program Overview (continued)

- Create developmental models of sponsorship that contribute to our core outcomes for children.
- Improve sponsored families' involvement in letter writing.
- Improve and strengthen the capacity of our partner organizations.

Organizational capacity, systems and structures

- Improve the integration of sponsorship and grant funded programs.
- Increase the rate of sponsorship from 71% to 90% over the next five years.
- Put in place a management system to effectively manage large grants from acquisition to close-out.
- Recruit and train qualified staff to acquire and manage large grants.
- Implement a lean organizational structure with clear accountability mechanisms.
- Promote the culture of risk management practices.
- Promote ownership, clarity and action among ChildFund staff.
- Develop staff through coaching, relationships and dialogue.

Influencing policy

- Lobby to become the only Government of Senegal (GoS) partner for the implementation of the Nutritional Enhancement Program (PRN) throughout Senegal.
- Become the voice of deprived, excluded and vulnerable children in Senegal.
- Raise funds to implement projects exceeding US \$57,000,000 over the next five years.

2012 Program Achievements

Infants:

Growing up healthy and secure for infants in Senegal is a matter of constant challenge due to morbidity caused by the major childhood killer diseases (malaria, acute respiratory infections, diarrhea, and intestinal worm infestation). The situation is further complicated because of difficulties in accessing care with long travel times to healthcare facilities from remote areas, difficulties in accessing drugs for vulnerable people and the imbalanced distribution of medical personnel. For children to become leaders of tomorrow who bring lasting change to their communities as outlined in the social impacts ChildFund seeks, we believe they must develop to their full potential as they progress through each stage of their childhood. Thus, during FY12, ChildFund Senegal supported and empowered communities to provide healthcare and opportunities for early childhood development through:

- Rehabilitating and supporting health huts; training, post-training and monitoring of community health workers (CHW), matrons and the relay in primary health care delivery; continued supervision of project implementation; and close medical follow-up of new born and infants.
- Organizing weighing sessions alongside culinary demonstrations and medical check-ups for infants in ECD centers.
- Constructing, rehabilitating, and equipping holistic and multi-dimensional Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centers to promote the strong cognitive, social, emotional and physical development of infants.

2012 Program Achievements (continued)

- Establishing safe water sources, constructing improved latrines, and promoting hygienic practices in homes, pre-schools, and communities.
- Creating of child protection committees.

Healthy and secure infants (0-5 years old)	# Planned	# Achieved	% Achieved	# of Beneficiaries Reached	Unit of Measurement
Health and Nutrition					
Health Huts rehabilitated and supported	1.1	6	2550%	64	individuals
Medical visits for new-born within 3 days of birth	39871	7975	20%	7975	new-born
Births attended by trained nurse	22272	6263	28%	6263	new-born
New-born receiving essential care	22272	5868	26%	5868	new-born
Treatments for tuberculosis, diarrhea, and malaria provided by Health Huts	117486	4360	4%	4360	Infants
Infants monitored for nutritional status	726961	87860	12%	87860	Infants
Medical visits in ECCD Center	0.1	1	1000%	610	Infants
Pharmacies supported	17	17	100%	944	Infants
Information, Education, and Communication sessions	577	438	85%	8237	mothers and infants
Nutritional programs supported in ECCD Centers	379	247	85%	4219	Infants
Health mutuals supported	14	12	94%	1962	Infants
Education					
ECCD Centers constructed	5	5	100%	482	infants
ECCD Centers rehabilitated and equipped	27	17	57%	2221	infants
ECCD Centers materials supplied	76	76	100%	3317	infants + caregivers
ECCD Center Management Committees created	40	36	95%	3791	infants
ECCD Center classrooms constructed and rehabilitated	6	6	100%	101	infants
ECCD Center playgrounds constructed and equipped	5	5	100%	482	infants
ECCD Center caregivers trained on the National Curriculum and LTP	67	67	100%	2464	infants
ECCD Center caregivers financially supported	132	85	77%	5528	infants
Water and Sanitation					
Latrines constructed in ECCD Centers	9	7	80%	568	infants
Additional ECCD Centers with access to clean water	2	2	100%	101	infants
Child Protection					
ECCD Center Committees for Child Protection created	7	4	70%	1235	infants
Event celebration (African Child day, 24h for children)	36	26	89%	1831	infants
A district child protection network established	3	3	100%	1458	infants

2012 Program Achievements

Children:

Children are sacred in Senegal. They are considered gifts since they will become the future generation and therefore enrich society and the economy. At a critical period in the solidification of healthy habits as well as cognitive and social development, it is imperative that communities take responsibility in leading children towards a positive path. During 2012, ChildFund guided and empowered growing children to remain healthy and continue optimal development through:

- Supplying schools with pharmacies and canteens to ensure continued health and optimal nutrition for developing children and creating micro health insurances.
- Constructing, rehabilitating and equipping classrooms, libraries and playgrounds; building capacities of teachers and school management committees created for a strong elementary education; and providing school supplies and tutoring to enrolled children in order to increase their school performance.
- Providing latrines in schools to increase sanitary measures, access to water, and promotion of healthy habits.
- Distributing 3,494 pieces of lamp named "light of hope" received from ChildFund Korea to enrolled children from low-income families living in inadequate housing with no electricity. This will contribute to the improvement of their learning condition.
- Organizing communities to discuss and commit to child protection and rights.

Youth:

The number of children enrolled in school has increased over time. Nevertheless, a significant proportion of children who start primary school are not completing this cycle. There is not one single cause of drop out however, poverty influences the demand for schooling. Not only because it affects the inability of households to pay school fees and other costs associated with education, but also because it is associated with a high opportunity cost of schooling for children. As children grow older, the opportunity cost of education is even larger, hence increasing the pressure for children to work and earn income for the household as opposed to spending time in education. However, without proper training, youth in Senegal frequently remain unemployed, impoverished, and unable to provide for themselves or their families. During 2012, ChildFund Senegal committed to accompanying youth through the difficult transition into adulthood by enhancing their capacities and securing livelihoods in hopes of creating the future leaders of our communities and Senegal. Senegalese youth will become future leaders of their communities and Senegal through:

- Organizing training sessions on sales techniques and employment skills, providing youth with the capacity to enroll in professional training programs to facilitate employment.
- Organizing and providing seed money and mentoring youth to craft entrepreneurial ideas, enroll in savings and loans activities and begin and sustain their small businesses.
- Educating youth in sexual and reproductive health and family planning through youth friendly corners.
- Promoting, training, and encouraging youth in leadership activities to champion social issues such as fighting early/forced marriage, sexual abuse, child trafficking and promoting birth registration.
- Training and engaging youth in child protection to create a generation conscientious of children's rights.

2012 Program Achievements (continued)

Educated and confident children (6-14 years old)	# Planned	# Achieved	% Achieved	# of Beneficiaries Reached	Unit of Measurement
Health and Nutrition					
School feeding	5	5	100%	956	Children
pharmarcies supported	26	35	135%	3598	Children
Health mutuals supported	1	1	100%	3218	Children
Education					
Classrooms rehabilitated	3	8	267%	2044	Children
Classrooms built	0.1	4	4000%	962	Children
School Management Committees created	29	28	90%	8372	Children
School supplies for students	4838	2120	47%	10217	Children
School government established and teachers trained	70	57	81%	9448	Children and children
Library built	7	11	150%	5107	Children
Library equipped	9	5	78%	2736	Children and teachers
Playgrounds built	4	4	100%	448	Children
Student tutoring	1	2	200%	2	Children
Water and Sanitation					
Latrines constructed in schools	22	21	95%	7906	Children
Child Protection					
Fenced walls built	1	4	1550%	1140	children
Event celebration (National Talibe day, African Child day, 24h for children)	45	34	58%	12751	children
A district child protection network established	1	1	100%	3694	children
Community education on child rights	1	1	100%	315	children

Skilled and Engaged Youth (15-24 year old)	# Planned	# Achieved	% Achieved	# of Beneficiaries Reached	Unit of Measurement
Health					
Reproductive health education sessions (Talks, videos, youth corners, tea discussion)	425	237	77%	14594	Youth
Community and youth volunteer trained	11	11	100%	2230	Youth
Reproductive health advocacy	183	212	116%	367	Youth
HIV testing sessions	1	1	100%	54	Youth
Health mutuals supported	1	1	100%	397	Youth
Education and Livelihoods					
Youth training on sales techniques (OFL) employment skills	21	21	100%	350	Youth
Support for establishing youth employment groups	28	28	100%	265	Youth
Start up fund for youth groups	34	25	56%	153	Youth
Child Protection					
Event celebration	10	10	100%	1876	Youth
Establishment of child protection committee	27	26	96%	1876	Youth
Youth education session on early marriages	28	28	100%	956	Youth

2012 Program Achievements (continued)

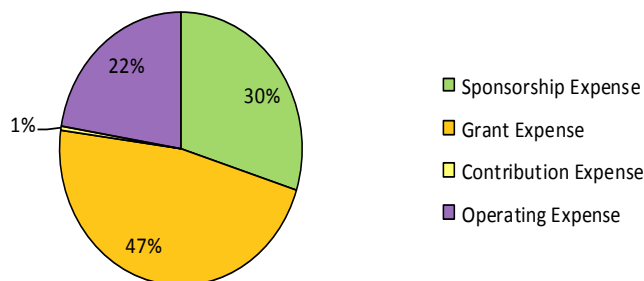
Societies:

In a bid to economically empower families and communities to take charge and improve the lives of children, ChildFund through its partners, promoted in FY12, village savings and loans (VS&L) initiatives to grow their revenues and businesses and thus cover education and health care costs for children. The organization also provided many capacity building opportunities by training communities on micro gardening, program management, child protection, and organizing children in youth clubs.

Sponsorship	# Planned	# Achieved	% Achieved	# of Beneficiaries Reached	Unit of Measurement
Community groups trained on sponsorship activities	12	12	100%	6692	Community groups
Youth SR clubs and clusters established	50	50	100%	3248	Youth clubs
Event celebrations (African Child Day, 24h for children)	1	1	100%	5259	Communities
Capacity building					
Support for establishing health mutuals	2	2	100%	74	Members
Community training on budgeting	1	1	100%	33	Members
Establishment of VS&L groups	40	40	100%	981	Members
Board meeting to approve annual budget and report	1	1	100%	27	Members
Quarterly Board meeting	4	4	100%	27	Members
Monthly board leadership meeting	12	12	100%	19	Members
Community relay training on malaria indoor residual spraying	2253	2253	100%	2253	Relays
ToT on community based prevention of postpartum hemorrhage	30	30	100%	30	
Bajenu Gox ("godmothers" who promote good maternal and newborn health practices in each village) trained	1214	81	7%	81	Bajenu Gox

Financial Report

Senegal Total FY12 Expenses: \$12,242,267



Senegal FY12

Category	Amount	Percentage
Sponsorship Expense	3,661,710	30%
Grant Expense	5,784,522	47%
Contribution Expense	59,860	0%
Operating Expense	2,736,175	22%
Total Expense	12,242,267	100%

Challenges

Senegal has both a growing and a very young population with the under 20 representing 54% of the total population. This raises the dependency problem with a great number of inactive people, posing many threats (heavy burden of preventable childhood diseases, high rate of unemployment, school dropouts, inadequate professional training, values crisis, early pregnancies) to vulnerable children and the youth under 24, especially girls. As it stands, pressing challenges for children and youth in Senegal are many.

In the education sector, the challenges include: repeated grades and dropouts; inadequate number of classrooms and lack of water and sanitation facilities; low rate of qualified teachers; inadequate supervision by inspectors; temporary facilities; persistent need for teaching materials in community-based schools, functional literacy centers, and preschool preparatory classes; regular disruptions of the school year; lack of results-based management capacities to monitor educational outcomes; and low enrollment in preschools (only 11% out of the 3 million eligible toddlers).

In the health sector, malaria, acute respiratory infections and diarrhea still remain the leading causes of morbidity in Senegal. In the protection sector, 40% of young women were married off before reaching the age of 18 and 16% were in union even before they were 15 years old.

Urbanization is another challenge for Senegal with Dakar's concentration alone, i.e., 25% of the country's population living on only 0.28 % (550sqkm) of the country's total land area.

Why Sponsorship is Important

My name is Aminata Sow. I am a former sponsored child from Camberene, Dakar. I was enrolled at very young age and sponsored in 1995 at the age of 6. Since then, my sponsor has supported my tuition fees through ChildFund and its local affiliated partner. She greatly contributed to my success. I have wonderful memories of her and her children. They sent me gifts and advised me to persevere and succeed in school. My sponsor's family's moral and financial support has really motivated me to keep going. To this day, we maintain a sincere, honest and beneficial relationship that will last forever. Because I did not want to disappoint my sponsor, I did everything I could to perform well in school and I succeeded by the grace of God. In my sophomore year, my sponsor asked me what I would do after graduating from high school. I told her that becoming a flight attendant was my childhood dream. She then agreed to cover my tuition fees to enroll in a flight attendant training school, which is only accessible to students whose parents are wealthy. My sponsor kept her promise and before I even graduated from high school, she started sending money for the tuition fees. The local partner opened a bank account for me to save the money. After graduating from high school and completing 15 months of training, I have obtained the flight attendant BSS degree. I am now taking English classes while searching for a job. I thought I should make this testimony to express my gratitude to my lovely sponsor, her children and her husband. I cannot describe all the joy that fills my heart now.

