



OVERVIEW OF

Senegal

Overview of Senegal



YEAR OF
1960
INDEPENDENCE

POPULATION
13,635,927
MILLION

Languages

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

Demographic, Economic & Education Indicators

Indicator	Value	Rank
Infant Mortality Rate	45/1000	
Under 5 Mortality Rate	60/1000	43
Maternal Mortality Rate	370/100,000 live births	
Human Development Index (HDI)	0.485—Low Human Development	163/187
Life expectancy at birth	63 years	
Adult literacy rate	50%	
Primary gross enrollment rate—female/male	89%/83%	
Primary school completion rate	60%	
Unemployment rate	48%	195/202
Unemployment, youth ages 15-24	14.8%	

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: 14

Number of enrolled children (FY14): 25,699

Participant Reach (FY14): 9,106,108



ChildFund Senegal started operations in 1985 and supports multi-sector sustainable community development projects that help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children grow into responsible adults and community leaders. ChildFund works throughout Senegal to improve the lives of impoverished children and families through sponsorship and grant funded programs, covering all 14 administrative regions of Senegal. ChildFund Senegal's programming focuses on holistic methods to promote child and youth survival and development and places emphasis on

health and nutrition, education and protection, economic development and leadership. During FY14, ChildFund Senegal served 19,568 enrolled children while the total number of participants reached was 9,106,108.

Brief Program Overview

Infants

- Improved hygiene, nutrition and support including home visits by health workers and oral consultations for infants throughout FY14.
- Implementation of the Learning Through Play (LTP) model in an increased number of ECD Centers, along with toys, libraries and play groups.
- Focused on parenting education and involvement, skills-based capacity building in ECD Centers in FY14, with emphasis on teachers' professional development and creating a safe and dynamic learning environment leading to awareness, engaged toddlers and parent commitment.

Children

- Introduced new strategies to improve on learning and teaching methods, particularly in mathematics and reading (All Children Learning).
- Engaged in developing the Daara plus project.
- Distributed TOMs shoes to children enrolled in both formal and informal education structures, enabling ChildFund to identify the most deprived, excluded and vulnerable children.

Youth

- Established economic interest groups to tackle youth unemployment.
- Trained and engaged youth in child protection to create a generation conscientious about children's rights.
- Offered outreach programs to strengthen communication and provide support to young people.
- Focused on the promotion of leadership.

Community and Civil Society

- Scaling up of VS&L programs to other ChildFund intervention areas throughout FY14. Membership in VS&L programs has reached 2,000 and women have raised approximately \$965,288.
- Response to emergencies strengthened by crop diversification and the implementation of cereal banks, ensuring that people do not go hungry during a crisis.
- The SHINE project—an initiative which has reached families in sponsorship areas—increased income while cultivating a spirit of solidarity and community support.

2014 Program Achievements

Healthy and Secure Infants

Early childhood stimulation for school readiness: example of play groups

In Senegal, ChildFund in collaboration with its Local Partners and Departmental Inspection of Education offices assists communities in implementing ECD programs in community centers in most of the villages.

- These structures are managed by community volunteers trained by ChildFund partners and are all equipped with toys. Currently, 25 play-groups and 10 toy libraries are set up throughout our areas of intervention. Children ages 3 to 5 years old enrolled in these centers learn psychomotor, cognitive and affective skills in a fun and safe environment. Issues related to health/nutrition, child protection and parenting education are integrated into the curriculum to generate positive health behaviors in children and caregivers.
- In order to support caregivers, ChildFund Senegal implements income-generating activities such as Village Saving And Loan programs (VS&L) and SHINE to enhance their decision-making power and thus contribute to better care of the child and family.
- In addition, ChildFund Senegal manages a large USAID grant to support health and nutrition of children 0 – 5 years old. This project reaches more than 2 million children (more than 9 million people, such as parents, caregivers, community members, etc). It is a broad community health project with an emphasis on maternal & child health, nutrition and neglected tropical diseases.



The ECD Centers: How we prepare for school readiness

In Senegal, ChildFund supported the construction of 90 ECD centers attended by 5,380 young children, with 54% being girls. These ECD centers deliver a package of services including, health, nutrition, psychomotor development, drawing, games and graphism.

Most parents have very positive feedback on the ECD Centers with anecdotes such as: " *This behavioral change is evident in our children because they are respectful; they greet people, wash their hand with soap and knock before they enter a room.*"

2014 Program Achievements

Healthy and Secure Infants

In the Mbour Area, 128 members of the management committees of ECD centers received capacity building to enable them to better understand their roles and responsibilities in managing the ECD centers.

For children to contribute to lasting change in their lives and communities as outlined in our global vision, we believe they must develop essential capabilities as they progress through each stage of childhood. Thus the federation of Kajoor Janken was supported by our LP to develop a new approach whereby market gardening was incorporated into some ECD curricula. At the Sam Warefu Xaleyi, ECD Center in the Thiès Area, young children are introduced to micro gardening. Children were actively involved in the entire process, from site preparation to nursery construction for transplanting. They sowed various seeds: lettuce, beets, cabbage, carrots, and cucumber. Children enjoy this activity which seems fun for them!



Young children very busy in preparing the site for gardening in Thiès.

The Parent-Child Playgroups: Start at the Beginning

"Since participating in parenting education activities, I have acquired new knowledge that helps me to better stimulate my children." (Mrs. Diop, Village of Taiba—Baol Local Partner)

In the process of establishing parent-child playgroups for holistic development of infants and young children (YC), particularly those 0-36 months the five LPs (federations), with technical support from the decentralized services of the State (Community Development Service, Agency of Case of toddlers and District of Education and Training), held training sessions for Community mobilizers (Mob Com) and ADC on the early stimulation and awakening, health / nutrition, protection and community management groups. These trained Mob Coms and ADC, in turn, trained 75 community volunteers (Relays) who in turn will ensure the participation of the 25 pilot parent-child playgroups.

A total of 75 community actors were trained by the Mob Com and ADC on management and group facilitation of child-parent playgroups. Modules focused on management tools for playgroups, the playgroup's charter and in establishing action plans.



Mrs. Diop with her daughter holding a doll she made during the training session.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)

At the end of FY14, 375 children under three years and their parents were ready to participate in the parent-child playgroups.

Learning Through Play (LTP): A calendar very helpful for parents

A total of 300 parents were trained in parenting on the development of infants and young children through community sessions.

Pilot Toy libraries: Making toys and games accessible at the community level

With the support of Local Partners, 40 preschool educators completed their training to support 10 community toy libraries, under local management. Toy libraries will give additional educational and recreational resources to the children and their parents. These toy Libraries, which are a major innovation in the environment of early childhood in Senegal, will provide a structure and system that integrates the continuum from playgroups activities to first grade of primary schools.



In two toys libraries, parents and especially mothers have expressed their pride and joy in spending time with their children at these libraries. They have furthermore gained a sense of ownership of the project as they act as ECD educators, showing that they are an integral part to their own children's development. Where these libraries are being piloted, parents and teachers are noting a greater sense of passion and enthusiasm from the children.

Educated and Confident Children

"Our children are leaders and they show the way..."

One of the most important achievements during this fiscal year was the Children Leaders Program Initiated in September 2013 by the Dimbaya Federation, one of ChildFund Senegal's local partners. The main objective of launching this program was to promote child participation by putting the children at the center of programs and activities.

It was a long process going from the establishment of selection criteria, the election of their own leaders, by themselves, up to the training of children.

The staff worked with children on Sundays, and the children were trained on leadership, active citizenship, Child rights, participation, planning & participative budgeting, Ebola prevention, among others.



2014 Program Achievements (continued)

One of the first actions by the children was the celebration of The Day of the African Child and National Children's Week on June 14, supported by ChildFund and Unicef. Children stood out through the slogans they wrote, which highlighted the difficulties they face in their daily life. Highlighted issues included "Child Protection", "Child Participation", "School and Education", "Parents and Education", "Peace and Development". Children marched through the streets of Ziguinchor to the Government Center holding their banners which had their slogans. Once at the governance they gave their memorandum to the Governor who was impressed by the children's leadership and confidence.

They also read the closing speech of the Child Week in the presence of the Head of the Unicef Bureau in Senegal.

Impressed by the dynamism and leadership of the children, Unicef agreed to fund a community sensitization project led by Children in early FY15, with the objective to build community awareness on Child Rights & participation, prevention against the Ebola pandemic, and child abuse in the entire district of Ziguinchor.



Skilled and Involved Youth

In FY14 interventions for Life State 3, 15-24 years, focused on the following strategic areas:

- Development of socio-economic skills
- Promotion of leadership

The professionalization of youth was one of the priority objectives of the interventions. Training of young people in trades and micro entrepreneurship was one of the main strategies of the development training centers. The training aims to create life skills among young people, mostly girls regardless of their level of education. Various channels are created based on the entry profiles of girls.

ChildFund also brought granting aid, commonly referred to as kits, to young students participating in ChildFund's sponsorship program and attending national or regional universities. Finally, material support was provided to young people already in the trades to enable them to start their professional activities.

Activities for capacity building of youth in life skills, social entrepreneurship and leadership were held.

Activities implemented in the teen's corners focused on sex education and awareness around issues such as:

- STI / HIV/AIDS;
- The value and use of condoms;
- Gender-based violence;
- the dangers of tobacco and drugs; and
- Early marriage, pregnancy and self-esteem.



In total 2,048 young people were involved - 1,077 girls and 971 boys.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)

Civil Society

Despite the supportive policy environment in Senegal, there are still inadequate resources for implementation. For example, the Government of Senegal set a target of 50% of children accessing pre-schools by 2025 but allocated less than 3% of the education sector budget to IYCs. Local governments have been given responsibility for the ECD sector, but very few local government authorities budget for ECD activities.

For these reasons, ChildFund Senegal is coordinating the establishment of a National Network of Actors in the Early Childhood sector with Senegal's Governmental Services, UN Agencies, INGO's, and national associations active on issues involving infants and young children. The main activities included in the Network's draft work plan (2014-2015) are advocating for more governmental resources for ECD, research activities in the ECD field, capacity building, and social mobilization. Two big meetings are planned in order to prepare the general assembly.

Disability Inclusion

Awa Kebe Story

Awa Kebe is a deaf-5 year-old girl who has been attending the middle section of the Early Childhood Development Center of Keur Gallo Kebe (Kajoor Jankeen LP) for two years . Her disability was detected by her parents. Before enrollment, Awa had a desire to accompany her playmates to the ECD Center.

While she enjoyed playing with the children at the playground, every day when they passed by her house, she would follow them, but the teacher would have to return Awa to her parents each time. Eventually, the teacher asked the Community Mobilizer whether the child could be integrated into the center. This was done. Awa now attends the ECD center and is seeking to be enrolled in the school for the deaf in Thies.



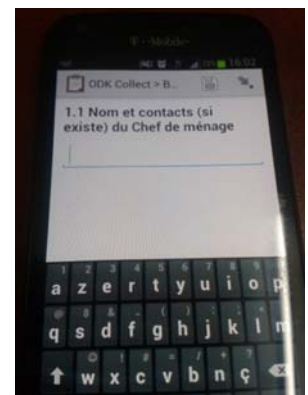
In this photo, Awa is third on the right with her eyes closed. The children are threading pearls.

Mobile Technology

ChildFund Senegal is conducting a prototype, using mobile technology as part of its Monitoring and Evaluation activities. Using Open Data Kit (ODK) technology, data can be collected using mobile phones and uploaded to an online server.

The process, using ODK, involves:

- Designing a questionnaire or other collection tool.
- Incorporating the questionnaire on the phone.
- Collecting the data and recording it on the mobile phone.
- Uploading the data to the server, to be accessed by authorized users.
- Performing data analysis.



2014 Program Achievements (continued)

To initiate the prototype, ChildFund Senegal : (1) established a task force; (2) purchased equipment; (3) trained the systems administrator and users; (4) configured the devices; (5) conducted various tests.

By the end of the fiscal year, two big activities had been carried out by using mobile technology:

- The baseline survey as part of the GBV project in the Mbour area—more than 700 children were surveyed in less than a week by the Federation “community mobilizers.”
- The assessment of the Dimbaya Kagnalen Federation ASP— in each life stage, the data related to the ASP strategic objectives are collected. This process is ongoing.



ChildFund Senegal has identified the following advantages:

- Supervision of the collection can be done remotely and with the server. We have the opportunity to follow data collection progress, work of each data collector and quality of data, in real-time The use of the device is faster than using a paper questionnaire.
- The data that is uploaded to the server is ready for analysis. The steps for raw data entry and counting are no longer needed and as a result, we are realizing the following benefits:
 - Huge savings on time and resources .
 - The reliability of data that can be verified in real time is guaranteed.
 - The risk of input error is almost non-existent.

Programs—Agriculture



ChildFund Senegal is implementing two agricultural projects: *SHINE* and *Cereal Banks*. These two food security projects represent the first pathway of the first domain of the organizational theory of change.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)

SHINE

The overall aim of the project “SMALL HOLDER INCOME AND NUTRITION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (SHINE)” is to allow 5,700 smallholder families, in three Childfund Senegal intervention to achieve sustainable well-being by 2017.

The implementation of project activities started in 2013 with the placement of animals with identified families. Following the Heifer International model, once calves are born, the next beneficiary is identified and receives a calf. Several other activities to ensure a favorable environment for cattle breeding were conducted.

In the second year of the project 1,995 families benefited from this program and upon the birth of calves, would then give a calf to the next beneficiary. These beneficiaries are identified by village committees set up specifically for this purpose. The following table shows details by federation.

Federation	families touched
Baol	243
Mbour	388
Thies	1,364
Total	1,995

The project aims, through these livelihoods donations:

- To improve household incomes;
- To improve food security and household nutrition; and
- To strengthen the roles of women and youth in their contribution to livelihoods and resilience of families and communities.

CEREAL BANKS

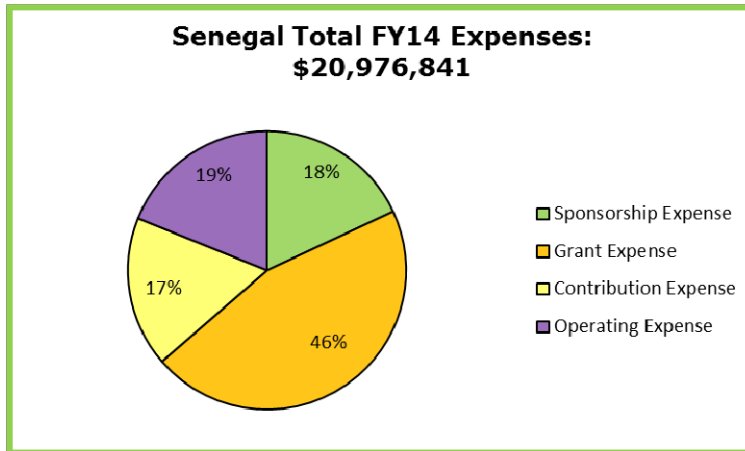
The overall objective of the establishment of cereal banks is to contribute to improved food security for vulnerable households as well as capacity building of local stakeholders for the sustainable management of cereal stocks in three ChildFund Senegal intervention areas.

The strategies implemented have helped ensure food security, especially during the lean season, for communities in the project area of intervention until the next harvest. The results are visible with the consolidation and strengthening community capacity in managing cereal stocks.

Federation	Number of Cereal Banks	Number of Households
Mbour	9	1,023
Baol	5	692
Ziguinchor	3	9,339
Total	17	11,054

During FY14, 11,054 families have benefited from the services of the 17 cereal banks installed in all three local partner areas. The average reimbursement rate is 76% with 10 banks having rates between 90% and 100%.

Financial Report



Senegal FY14

Sponsorship Expense	3,786,586	18%
Grant Expense	9,560,625	46%
Contribution Expense	3,663,458	17%
Operating Expense	3,966,172	19%
Total Expense	20,976,841	100%

ChildFund Alliance

Sponsorship: At the end of FY13, ChildFund Senegal had 19,568 active sponsorships from the following Alliance members: (1) ChildFund International—8,658; (2) ChildFund Korea – 4,783; (3) ChildFund Australia – 2,558; (4) Un Enfant par la Main – 1,518; (5) Taiwan Fund for Children & Families—1,426; (6) ChildFund Deutschland – 417; (7) ChildFund New Zealand - 94; (8) BORNEfondens - 70; (9) Barnfondens – 43; and (10) ChildFund Ireland – 1.

Grants: Since 2013, ChildFund Senegal has received grants from ChildFund Korea and KOICA, totaling \$ 680,400. This grant focused on enhancing universal basic education for talibes Daaras (Koranic school) in Senegal. The project has three objectives :

- Improve the quality of alternative education (access, retention, education and learning) for all 295 residents of Talibés Daara Tafsir Demba Ndoye of Mékhé, by 2015.
- Improve the health status of all 315 children Talibes dwellers of Daara Tafsir Demba Ndoye of Mékhé, 2by 015
- Guarantee the sustainability of funding through the Daara Tafsir Demba Ndoye.

The direct beneficiaries are the 315 children and young residents of talibes Daara Tafsir Demba Ndoye of Mékhé, divided into three age cohorts:

- 3 to 5 years: 167 children
- 7 to 15 years: 128 children
- 15 to 24 years: 20 children

The results are:

- Six (6) classrooms were built to accommodate children and youth ages 3-5, 6-14 and 15-24, enrolled in the Daara. These classrooms also serve as the venue for alphabetization of the Ndeyi Daara.
- Eight toilets were constructed following the procedures and standards. Girls and boys of EDC/LTP, ages 7-15 years and ages 3-5 years use a separate toilet. The 315 children attending the Daaras wash their hands with soap before eating and after using the toilet and are regularly dewormed.
- Thirty talibes live and sleep in dormitories and clean rooms that meet hygiene standards.
- A diverse partnership was set up with the Inspectorate for Education and Training, and the Service of Water and Forests
- Income generating activities (husbandry, gardening, savings and credit groups of women) were implemented to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Financial Report (continued)

Contributions: During FY14, ChildFund Senegal received 7,598 in contributions for its projects and programs from ChildFund Australia, Un Enfant par la Main, ChildFund Korea, and ChildFund Deutschland .

Challenges

The current major challenges in Senegal are:

- A lack of quality education for all children;
- Diversification in the provision of education;
- Non-implementation of the national strategy of child protection that has been validated by the State;
- Lack of guaranteed free health care for all children ;
- Birth registration—closing the gap for children who do not have civil documents and implement the systems and regulations that guarantee the issuance of the vital record to all children; and
- Eliminating gender-based violence and all other forms of violence, exploitation and abuse against children .

However, the country is going through a very difficult phase with scarce resources and low youth unemployment. School crises also compromise the quality of teaching, curriculum reforms lowering the level of school children and the phenomenon of temporary shelters.

Cultural and social norms, based on social and religious prejudices, is a major impediment to ensuring the rights of all children. There should be strong advocacy and action around respecting children's rights. ChildFund Senegal *is part of the dynamics of active* contribution to the State's efforts in tackling these challenges.

Why Sponsorship is Important

Sponsorship Changes A Life



Today Diakham has 10 years of professional work experience. He manages his own workshop with four sewing machines (two electrical machines and two embroidering machines). He also employs two young tailors and three tailors in training.

Diakham is now his family's main source of support. Their living conditions have all changed. The family home was built with cement and supplied with fresh water, electricity and other amenities.

Why Sponsorship is Important (continued)

In 2009, Diakham's daughter Marianne was born. He named her after his former sponsor and as a result, the sponsor decided to sponsor her namesake, Diakham's daughter. The sponsor has visited Diakham and his family on two occasions. Doudou Diakham is very touched by this relationship as he said, *"My relationship with Marianne is very important for me. She is my second family forever. She financially supported me and answering her letters enabled me to read and to write. I always had been so happy to show her letters to my friends at school. She encouraged me a lot to better myself and learn my profession ..."*

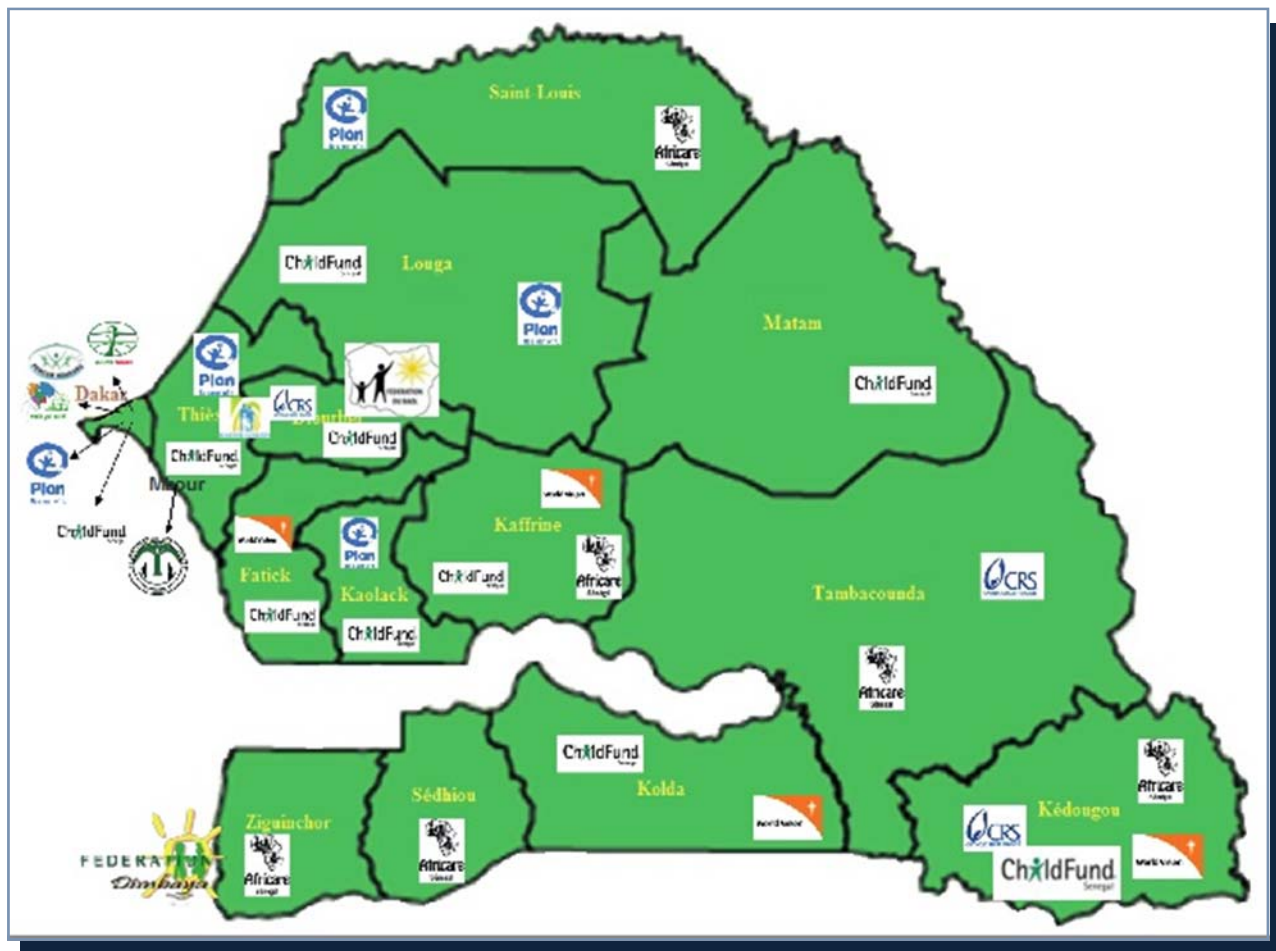


Sponsorship Makes the Difference

Fatou talks about how sponsorship has made a difference in her life. Her sponsor helped her purchase goats and sheep which she raised. After selling these pets, she purchased a plot of land in the Fahu district, where she is building a home and earning a living from cattle breeding.



Where We Work



Zones d'intervention

14 Régions

72 Districts Sanitaires:

2245 Cases de Santé

1917 Sites