



SENEGAL

2023 IFRC network country plan

Funding Requirement **CHF 3.5M**

Appeal number **MAASN002**

In support of the Senegalese Red Cross Society



46

National Society branches



115

National Society staff



30,000

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



25,000

Climate and environment



45,000

Disasters and crises



170,000

Health and wellbeing



5,000

Migration and displacement



2,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network multiyear focus

Longer term needs

- Disaster preparedness and response
 - Water, sanitation and hygiene
 - Community-based health
 - Migration

Capacity development

- Volunteer management
- Digital transformation

Key country data

Population **17.2M**

INFORM Severity rating **medium**

Human Development Index rank **170**

Population below poverty level **46.7%**

Hazards



Drought



Floods



Food insecurity

Funding requirements

Total 3.5M CHF

Through the IFRC

2M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

873,000 CHF

Host National Society

582,000 CHF

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

- 150,000** CHF
Climate and environment
- 945,000** CHF
Disasters and crises
- 500,000** CHF
Health and wellbeing
- 200,000** CHF
Migration and displacement
- 100,000** CHF
Values, power and inclusion
- 105,000** CHF
Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

Belgian Red Cross

French Red Cross

Italian Red Cross*

Spanish Red Cross

Turkish Red Crescent



NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The Senegalese Red Cross Society was established by law in 1963 and joined the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in the same year. The mission of the Senegalese Red Cross is to prevent and alleviate suffering, in all impartiality, without any distinction of race, nationality, class, religion or political opinion.

The National Society is present in the 14 regions and 45 departments of Senegal, and remains one of the leading humanitarian institutions, neutral and independent, and auxiliary to the public authorities. It is active in several areas, including disaster preparedness and response, health, first aid training, searching for missing persons and restoring family links, promotion of humanitarian ideals and values, dissemination of international humanitarian law, and raising awareness of the need to respect the Red Cross emblem and the law protecting the emblem in Senegal.

With its community network throughout the country, the Senegalese Red Cross is one of the organizations that is present in communities from the first moments of crises and disasters. The National Society has developed a real expertise in the field of community activities. Since its creation, it has managed more than 20 large-scale emergency operations, and assisted a total of more than six million people in Senegal. The National Society

has been responding to epidemics, electoral violence, food crises, community health issues, shelter problems, migration and population displacement, accompanying people and helping them to recover from disasters.

The Senegalese Red Cross has an operational team to facilitate the implementation of planned actions. It relies on 30,000 volunteers, over 100 national disaster response team members trained in the areas of shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene, health, food security, nutrition, livelihoods and cash transfers, and over 2,500 community disaster response team members. It also has 62 early warning system focal points, 59 focal points for restoring family links present in each departmental committee, 10 migration focal points, and 46 communications focal points.

The National Society's experience in emergencies has also been demonstrated in the rapid deployment of emergency stocks to people affected by disasters. In the early hours of emergencies involving communities whose survival or dignity is physically threatened, the National Society rapidly deploys emergency kits for groups and individuals, ranging from tents to non-food items. The National Society is recognized as the leading organization to position and distribute emergency stocks, to alleviate the suffering of populations, before the arrival of other interventions.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION IN 2023

Joint situational analysis

Senegal is bordered by Mauritania, Mali, Guinea, and Guinea-Bissau. It has a dry tropical climate, a total surface area of 196,722 sq. km and a population of 16.7 million, a quarter of which lives in the Dakar region (0.3% of the territory). Senegal's Human Development Index for 2021 is 0.511— which places the country in the “low” human development category—positioning it at 170 out of 191 countries and territories.

Growth has accelerated to 6.1% in 2021, up from 1.3% in 2020, driven by industrial production and a recovery in services with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. Imports account for around 70% of the total food supply in Senegal. However, the recovery was undermined by the conflict in Ukraine. Real growth slowed from 6.1% in 2021 to 5% in 2022 as private consumption

and investment declined, due to higher food and energy prices (World Bank). Inflation reached a multi-decade high of 11.2% in August 2022, driven by rising food prices (17.3%), negatively impacting households. According to the International Monetary Fund, average inflation in 2022 is estimated at 7.5%.

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly altered the country's economic outlook, leading to a decline in services such as tourism and transport, as well as exports. The government responded with containment measures and introduced an Economic and Social Resilience Programme in 2020. However, limited fiscal buffers and safety nets, a vulnerable health care system and a large informal sector, pose challenges. Primary health services have suffered due to a greater focus on the response to COVID-19, highlighting the need to better prioritize both basic services and pandemic response.

Risks to the outlook include inflationary pressures, potentially exacerbated by prolonged conflict in Ukraine, regional insecurity, new variants of COVID-19, and extreme weather events. A more prolonged conflict in Ukraine could increase pressure on food and energy prices, increasing the risk of food insecurity in rural areas. In addition, spreading insecurity from the Sahel and political unrest in neighbouring countries could negatively impact economic activity and investment in the eastern provinces and reduce exports. COVID-19 has aggravated the situation, especially in urban areas, where service activities are concentrated. The poverty gap has deteriorated more in rural areas, suggesting that the rural poor have suffered the most. In addition, the pandemic has exacerbated non-income poverty,

with potential long-term negative effects on human capital, including reduced school attendance.

Senegal is exposed to climatic shocks (floods, droughts and associated health risks), which could reduce agricultural productivity and have a negative impact on the recovering tourism industry. Senegal suffers from major environmental problems, some of which are internal and many of which are linked to the degradation of the global environment. The impact of climate change is palpable, particularly in the Sahel region. Senegal has experienced erratic rainfall that has reduced agricultural production. In many cities, the intensity of the rains has caused flooding, including in parts of Dakar.

Strategic priorities

Climate and environment

Senegal has a year-round tropical climate with well-defined dry and wet seasons that result from winter winds from the northeast and summer winds from the southwest. The dry season (December to April) is dominated by the hot, dry harmattan wind. Dakar's annual rainfall of about 600 mm occurs between June and October when maximum temperatures average 30 °C and minimum temperatures 24.2 °C. From December to February, maximum temperatures average 25.7 °C and minimum temperatures 18 °C. Inland temperatures are higher than along the coast, and precipitation increases considerably further south, exceeding 1,500 mm per year in some areas.

Climate change in Senegal will have significant impacts on many aspects of life. It will lead to an increase in average temperatures in West Africa of 1.5 to 4°C by mid-century, compared to the period 1986-2005. Rainfall projections indicate an overall decrease in rainfall and an increase in intense mega-storms in the Sahel. Sea level is projected to rise faster in West Africa than the global average. In Senegal, it is expected to increase by one metre by the end of the century.

Senegal has been experiencing severe flooding in recent years, leading to the implementation of the National Plan for Organization of Relief (ORSEC) in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. The year 2022 has been marked by an aggravation of these flooding phenomena, with an increase in the amount of rainfall received throughout the country, particularly in the regions of Dakar, Thiès and Matam. This situation affected more than 52,000

people, including households that have lost their livelihoods, those with destroyed houses and displaced populations housed in temporary shelters.

Extreme drought is having an impact on agriculture and causing food and occupational insecurity. More than 70% of the population is employed in the agricultural sector. Sea level rise and resulting coastal erosion are expected to cause damage to coastal infrastructure and displace a large percentage of the population living in coastal areas. Climate change also has the potential to increase land degradation, which is likely to increase desertification in eastern Senegal, leading to an expansion of the Sahara.

In 2006, Senegal submitted its National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The NAPA identifies water resources, agriculture and coastal areas as the country's most vulnerable sectors. In 2015, Senegal published its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) which indicate that climate change will be addressed as a national priority.

Conceptualized by President Abdoulaye Wade, then President of the Republic of Senegal, and endorsed in June 2005 at the seventh session of the Conference of African Leaders and Heads of Government of the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States, in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, the Great Green Wall project consists of creating, by 2030, a 15 km wide vegetation strip crossing the continent from East to West.

In 2021, only 5 million hectares had been achieved out of the 100 million planned, i.e. 5% of the objectives. These are meager results for a project with such a great impact for Africa and the world. "After fifteen years, we could have hoped for something different," a disappointment shared by Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and former Minister of the Environment of Nigeria, in 2016.

Main actions and areas of support

The Senegalese Red Cross seeks to reduce risks related to climate change, and to help preserve and restore terrestrial ecosystems in order to sustainably improve the living conditions of vulnerable populations.

The Senegalese Red Cross is part of State of Senegal's vision, through its policy on combating desertification. Its involvement in the Great Green Wall project is a perfect illustration, with the establishment of an integrated project with the National Agency for Reforestation and the Great Green Wall. This project, which is currently being developed, will not only include reforestation activities, but will also promote the resilience of communities living along the Great Green Wall by setting up income-generating activities, capacity building activities and promoting social cohesion. This is in line with the IFRC Pan-African initiative on Tree Planting and Care.

In 2023 and beyond, with the support of the IFRC network, the Senegalese Red Cross plans to:

- Contribute at the national level to the fight against climate change and environmental degradation by planting and maintaining trees
- Train communities and stakeholders working with Senegalese Red Cross on specific climate change actions, with the aim of establishing awareness and practices that ensure sustainability
- Participate in technical working groups related to climate change, anticipatory action, food security and livelihoods, with the aim of promoting coordination, partnership and cooperation within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the Sahel, and with external partners
- Develop the national action plan and contribution to the regional action plan of the food security and livelihoods regional initiative (VIGIE)
- Start-up and implement the VIGIE regional action plan, and support resource mobilization for the initiative

- Organize and participate in training for climate-smart livelihoods development and capacity building in food production and livelihoods diversification
- Provide support to communities to adapt household livelihoods - agriculture, livestock, etc. - to climate change, including diversification and community resilience approaches (including grain banks, climate impact training and awareness raising)
- Produce 10 community climate change risk maps
- Conduct five climate change surveys in five priority regions
- Set up capitalization programmes and disseminate local knowledge
- Organize 50 awareness campaigns on pollution and emerging diseases related to climate change
- Implement environmental protection and preservation activities (dykes, reforestation, ditching and furrowing, firebreaks, windbreaks) through cash for work
- Develop a flood model for the Dakar region

Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page [Senegal](#)

Senegal is vulnerable to a multitude of hazards, including seasonal floods and droughts, land degradation, locust infestations, landslides and fires. Senegal's humanitarian needs are driven by these disasters and, in 2020, the humanitarian situation was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which is expected to continue to negatively impact the country in 2023 and beyond.

From 5 to 7 August 2022, the cities of Dakar, Thiès and Matam recorded heavy rainfall totaling almost 500 mm for the three regions, according to weather data. Assessment reports by Senegalese Red Cross volunteers showed this caused extensive damage in these areas, resulting in the destruction of 170 houses and the displacement of 1,396 families who were accommodated in schools or hosted by neighbours, in difficult living conditions. Some 317 families were not relocated and were still living in their flooded houses in mid-September. In these three regions, eight departments were the most affected: five departments in Dakar, the department of Thiès, and two departments in Matam. The heavy rains caused the displacement of families after their houses were submerged in floodwaters, streets were waterlogged, entire neighbourhoods

flooded, and cars washed away. Dakar recorded three deaths and the greatest damage among the affected areas. Due to the violent flow of water, the Emergence Bridge and the Keur Massar Bridge collapsed, and the tunnel on the Corniche Ouest was flooded with water. In the three regions, this infrastructure damage led to the isolation of some areas, particularly in the department of Matam, due to difficulties related to geographical accessibility, which hampered access by relief workers.

Food insecurity and malnutrition remain critical challenges. They are exacerbated by a lack of dietary diversity and failure to adhere to food safety; poor water, sanitation and hygiene; and annual hunger seasons. According to the World Food Programme, 7.2% of people are food insecure, lacking available and adequate access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. Food insecurity in Senegal has distinct regional differences, largely affected by the concentration of resources in the Dakar region.

Main actions and areas of support

The Senegalese Red Cross is amongst the first responders to the multiple disasters and crises affecting the country. To maintain and guarantee an expertise in the preparedness, response to and management of emergencies, the National Society has equipped itself with various intervention mechanisms, the most prominent of which are the Disaster Response Teams, at community and national levels.

The National Society works in close collaboration with the government's technical departments including the Ministry of Health and Social Action, and Civil Protection (Ministry of Interior), which is mandated to manage disasters and emergencies. In the 2022 floods response, the National Society, as auxiliary to the public authorities, contributed with the mobilization of its volunteers for activities such as the pumping of water, disinfection of sites, installation of protection dikes, support for the relocation of people to resettlement sites, and management and maintenance of those sites.

On 7 August 2022, the Senegalese Red Cross deployed its response mechanism through the mobilization of 200 Community Disaster Response Team members engaged at local committee level throughout the country, with the support of local authorities. The IFRC provided support with a Disaster Response Emergency Fund [allocation](#). In the regions of Matam, Thiès and Dakar, immediate response actions carried out by the volunteers included first aid provided to 172 injured, the installation of dikes to slow down the flow of water,

notably for the protection of the Hann power plant, and support to the national hygiene brigade for the immediate pumping of houses in nine neighbourhoods of Dakar, three neighbourhoods of Thiès, and four in Matam. Volunteers carried out rapid assessments of the situation allowing the coordination body to lead the interventions.

In its auxiliary role, the focus of the National Society will be on preparedness for effective crisis response, building the resilience of communities to risks. It includes early warning, early action and anticipation to mitigate the risks of multi-hazards negatively affecting the lives, livelihoods, homes and living conditions of vulnerable and hard-to-reach communities. This is in line with the IFRC Pan-African Red Ready initiative.

In 2023 and beyond, with the support of the IFRC network, the Senegalese Red Cross plans to:

- Develop forecast-based action and [Early Action Protocols](#) for major flood and drought hazards, in coordination with Movement partners and external stakeholders
- Strengthen community capacity to protect livelihoods from hazards (including livestock shelters, protection of food stocks and land)
- Ensure timely response to the basic needs of people affected by crises and disasters through agile, adequate and flexible mechanisms, including cash transfers or in-kind distributions when markets are not functional
- Ensure access to food through cash transfers for vulnerable households
- Support and promote women's empowerment projects through livelihoods activities
- Establish 15 processing units for the benefit of groups and associations, as income generating activities
- Integrate training in agriculture, food production, livestock, poultry and other income-generating activities for vulnerable households, so that they can meet their basic needs
- Assist farmers groups and cooperatives to improve storage techniques and reduce post-harvest losses
- Provide conditional and/or limited cash grants or inputs (including seeds, livestock and boats) and technical skills to help vulnerable households create new income-generating activities in urban, peri-urban and rural areas

- Provide livelihood inputs (seeds, fertilizers, tools, livestock restocking, livestock fodder, etc.) through capacity and vulnerability assessments, to help vulnerable households restart/protect their livelihoods activities
- Develop fish farming, beekeeping and poultry farming activities in five locations
- Strengthen the technical and operational capacities of Senegalese Red Cross volunteers and staff in multi-sectoral preparedness and response (cash transfers, health, food security, livelihoods, shelter, etc.)
- Strengthen preparedness and contingency plans (especially for floods)

Health and wellbeing

In recent years, Senegal has achieved promising results after implementing the Health Quality Improvement Programme, which aims to address the lack of health care providers and medical resources. However, the country still faces significant challenges in human resources, with a shortage of health personnel, particularly in rural and hard-to-reach areas. The Emerging Senegal Plan (PSE), National Health and Social Development Plan (PNDSS 2019-2028) and the Health Quality Improvement Programme all aim to address the deficit of health care providers and medical resources in Senegal.

The Senegalese government has established the Health Emergency Operation Centre, which is tasked with preventing, detecting and responding to health emergencies. As a result, in 2021, civil society organizations, in collaboration with the government, were able to scale-up investment and interventions in epidemic preparedness, as illustrated by the “Projet d’Appui à la Prise en Charge des Crises et Urgences Sanitaires au Sénégal” (PAPCCUSS), a feasibility study which made the case for investing US \$10.5 million in health emergency and crisis management over five years. (source: preventionpidemics.org).

Despite these measures, COVID-19 vaccine coverage is still very low in Senegal (around 5% of people are fully vaccinated). Coverage needs to be improved, by creating more acceptance of the vaccine in communities, and by improving access to the vaccine for remote, at-risk and marginalized groups (such as migrants and internally displaced persons). Considerable efforts need to be made to reach or come close to the targets set by the WHO African Region, of vaccinating 70% of the population.

Malaria is endemic throughout Senegal and 100% of the population is at risk of the disease. In 2020, 0.7% of global malaria deaths occurred in the country. The number of malaria cases declined by 4.4% from 2017 to 2020 (from 50 to 52 per 1,000 of the population at risk) while the number of malaria deaths increased slightly by 1.8% in the same period (from 0.24 to 0.245 per 1,000 of the population at risk). (source: severemalaria.org).

The cumulative impacts of COVID-19 and food insecurity could increase the number of people suffering from malnutrition. Micronutrient deficiencies are alarmingly high, with 71% of children of 6–59 months being anemic. Among children of 6–23 months, only 10% have been fed the minimum acceptable diet and 14% of children under five years of age are underweight. 41% of children of 0–5 months are exclusively breastfed, and poor maternal nutrition, which is highly prevalent in Senegal, especially among adolescent girls, is associated with an intergenerational cycle of malnutrition and poverty.

Senegal is among other developing countries experiencing two aspects of malnutrition, with a high prevalence of both undernutrition and overweight/obesity (the overall prevalence of obesity was 6% in 2015). 21% of women of reproductive age are overweight or obese, which can lead to increases in nutrition-associated chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular conditions.

Main actions and areas of support

The Senegalese Red Cross’s work in the area of health will focus on risk communications, community engagement and promotion of community-based health services. Community engagement and empowerment will be a key strategy for delivering health information for the prevention of communicable diseases within communities. Senegalese Red Cross branches and volunteers will be trained at every stage to improve early detection, contact tracing, social mobilization, advocacy and awareness raising.

Additionally, the National Society has a strong strategic interest in the continued strengthening of its capacity in first aid, and several participating National Societies are significantly investing in building this capacity (Belgian Red Cross, French Red Cross and Monaco Red Cross). A financial resource mobilization strategy has been prepared, linked to a first aid policy and action plan.

In 2023 and beyond, with the IFRC network support, the Senegalese Red Cross plans to:

- Expand its community-based health programme to other priority departments
- Facilitate community access to appropriate health care
- Strengthen its capacities in first aid, with a first aid policy, action plan and resource mobilization strategy
- Develop emergency psychosocial first aid actions
- Develop awareness-raising actions for disease prevention
- Promote vaccination, especially of children and vulnerable people
- Support the establishment of mutual health insurance
- Establish community-based mechanisms to raise awareness and change habits in the fight against malnutrition
- Develop local standard operating procedures for epidemics with local Ministry of Health structures (for cholera, viral hemorrhagic fevers, measles, etc.)
- Conduct a feasibility assessment on community-based surveillance (based on National Society priorities and planned activities)
- Integrate COVID-19 recovery activities into all response and development plans
- Develop awareness-raising actions in the field of water, hygiene and sanitation
- Provide vulnerable communities with water treatment and conservation items
- Provide vulnerable households with improved latrines and wastewater management facilities

The fight against COVID-19 will be reinforced through a continent-wide initiative between the IFRC and Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to invest in building resilient public health security infrastructure in Africa. Under the USD 39 million Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative funded by Mastercard Foundation, the IFRC and African National Societies are building a programme that aims to ensure that 60% of African people are vaccinated against COVID-19. The partnership between the Mastercard Foundation and Africa CDC will support the procurement and delivery of tens of millions of COVID-19 vaccines and hasten economic recovery on the continent. Under this programme,

the Senegalese Red Cross will deliver critical risk communication and community engagement activities to vulnerable communities, in support of COVID-19 vaccine uptake. Other programme partners will provide procurement and logistics services to a central warehouse (UNICEF), in-country logistics (World Food Programme), managing COVID-19 vaccination centres (Amref Health Africa and GHSS) and safety surveillance (Akros).

Migration and displacement

Senegal is a country of origin, transit and destination for migrants. Emigration from Senegal is mostly driven by labour demand in Europe, and economic insecurity and low wages in Senegal. Migration is seen as a strategy for income diversification, as well as improved well-being and social standing. According to the European Commission's study "Imagining Europe from Outside," three in four Senegalese nationals want to emigrate – with Europe being the most coveted destination. Approximately 4-5% of the country's population lives abroad, and about half of that demographic resides in Europe. The main European destinations for Senegalese emigrants are France (110,000), Italy (80,000) and Spain (60,000). Most of the irregular Senegalese migrants in Europe use the Mediterranean route. Intra-regional migration accounts for roughly 46% of migration flow from Senegal, mainly to the Gambia (100,000), Mauritania (40,000), Ivory Coast (20,000), Mali, and Niger. (source: migrants-refugees.va). Migrants from Senegal often use dangerous routes and are exposed to significant risks.

In August 2021, there were an estimated 14,512 refugees and 2,052 asylum seekers in Senegal. Refugees and asylum seekers in Senegal are not in camps, but they are allowed to integrate themselves within Senegalese communities. As a result of this policy, refugees and asylum seekers are located all over the country. The refugees in Senegal are from Mauritania (14,196), Central African Republic (205) and other unspecified countries (111).

Nearly two million individuals or 14.6% of the general population in Senegal are internal migrants. The growing urbanization trend is one of the key factors that encourages internal migration. In Senegal, 70% of internal migrants are moving to urban settings. Urban-to-urban migration accounts for 77% of internal migration, and moving to Dakar accounts for 41% of internal migration. Internal displacement in Senegal is also caused by violence. According to IDMC, there were 8,400 people who were displaced because of conflict and violence, and 3,300 newly displaced because of natural disasters in 2020.

Main actions and areas of support

The Senegalese Red Cross is part of the IFRC three-year [Global Route Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points; (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The programme is implemented by 14 National Societies in West and Central Africa, East Africa and the Sahel regions including Senegal. It ensures that humanitarian services are available at key locations along migration routes; facilitates access to services for people on the move in a safe and dignified manner in countries and regions; facilitates coordination and information sharing among partners in countries and regions; adapts services to follow changing migration routes and strengthen the quality of services based on feedback; and provides a harmonized approach to humanitarian services for people on the move. In the Sahel region, Movement partners have recently gained significant experience in assisting and protecting migrants along migration routes through the establishment of safe, neutral and accessible humanitarian service points.

In recent years, the Senegalese Red Cross, the Mauritanian Red Crescent and the Gambian Red Cross have jointly responded to the needs of migrants moving along the Atlantic route with a holistic response including health services, provision of non-food items and restoring family links. The National Societies are working to promote a route-based approach, drawing on their extensive network of local branches and volunteers, to ensure that no vulnerable migrant is left behind.

In addition to the IFRC Global Route Based Migration Programme, the Senegalese Red Cross has been implementing two complementary contingency plans on migration, one funded by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the other in partnership with the IFRC and with funding from the Italian Red Cross. The National Society also has a programme of assistance and protection of the most vulnerable migrants in West Africa in partnership with the Spanish Red Cross, and a project for families of missing migrants, financed by the ICRC.

In 2023 and beyond, with IFRC network support, the Senegalese Red Cross plans to:

- Raise awareness and conduct advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy for the respect of the rights and dignity of migrants
- Assist and protect migrants regardless of their status through functional humanitarian service points
- Promote and support initiatives for the integration and reintegration of migrants
- Promote professional integration of migrants, piloting and scaling up of programmes aimed at socio-economic integration (vocational training, employment, income generating activities, etc.) for displaced persons, host communities and returnees, to improve their access to the labour market and sources of income
- Promote peaceful coexistence between migrants and host communities
- Support and accompany families of missing migrants
- Facilitate coordination with internal and external partners on land and sea routes
- Strengthen coordination between the National Societies of the Sahel+ group, for an effective, efficient and coordinated management of the migration issue in the region
- Collect and analyse data to feed into statistics that can help to better understand and map the contours of migration
- Build capacity of the National Society and actors involved in migration issues
- Facilitate forums for meetings, experience sharing, capacity building, information sharing, knowledge and learning on migration routes, with a focus on protection, gender and inclusion and community engagement and accountability
- Strengthen the positioning and auxiliary role of the National Society in the management of migration and displacement issues in Senegal

All support to migrants, displaced persons and host communities is based on the direct experience and views of the communities themselves, including through community engagement and accountability approaches, ensuring that trust with displaced persons and host communities is built and maintained. All support to migrants, internally displaced persons and host communities will follow a protection, gender and inclusion approach, including a focus on the principle of “do no harm”.

Values, power and inclusion

Violence against children, in particular sexual violence, continues to be a major challenge in Senegal, with an estimated number of 15,000 girls aged 15–17 being victims of sexual violence. In 2021, the Government undertook positive measures to systematize monitoring and detection of violence through the education and health systems. The review in early 2022 of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women will help identify strategies for increased gender equality, and women's and girls' rights in Senegal (UNICEF, 23 March 2022).

The UN Women Global Database on Violence Against Women shows that 12.2% of Senegalese women have experienced some form of physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate sexual partner in the last 12 months. 30.5% of women in Senegal are forced into child marriages. According to UNICEF Global Databases 2021, in Senegal, 24% of women and girls aged 15-49 have undergone some form of female genital mutilation. The latest available data (2021) indicates that 16.1% of girls under 15 have been circumcised. Opinions about female genital mutilation have not evolved over the last decade, and the rate of women between 15 and 49 years old who think that this practice should continue has increased, from 16.6% to 18%. Recent data shows this proportion is 11.9% among men.

In Senegal, 39% of the population lives in poverty, exposing women and children to human trafficking. Senegal was ranked Tier 2 in the Trafficking in Persons Report 2021, as Senegal does not meet the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking activities. Forced begging is the most prevalent form of trafficking in Senegal as it is seen as an alternative source of income, where street children fall victims of racketeering. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, children's forced begging in Senegal generates 5 billion CFA (USD\$8 million) annually. Many children who are begging in Senegal are victims of human trafficking. Child sex tourism is prevalent in the cities of Dakar, Saint-Louis, Cap Skirring and La Petit Côte, which are traditionally tourist areas. In 2020 and 2021, the Government maintained efforts to identify and protect trafficking victims (source: migrants-refugees.va).

Main actions and areas of support

Recognizing that women, girls, men and boys of different ages, people with disabilities and people with chronic illnesses have very different needs, risks and coping

strategies, the Senegalese Red Cross pays particular attention to the protection and inclusion of vulnerable groups, and to gender and diversity analysis. Protection, gender and inclusion is a cross-cutting intervention. It ensures that all programmes take into account gender, diversity and inclusion in assessments, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and cuts across all activities, including staff and volunteer recruitment.

As part of needs assessments, a gender and diversity analysis is conducted in all sectoral responses, including livelihoods, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter and health, to understand how different groups have been affected, which then informs the activities. All sectors will strive to meet the IFRC's minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies.

The IFRC network will work to strengthen the National Society's capacity to reach more local branches and increase awareness and action through youth empowerment and engagement with the education community, ensuring meaningful efforts for more inclusive work dynamics, greater diversity and people's protection and dignity, and contributions to resilience and peaceful environments.

In 2023 and beyond, with IFRC network support, the Senegalese Red Cross plans to:

- Support awareness and advocacy for the rights of vulnerable people
- Develop protection and assistance programmes for vulnerable people
- Promote socio-economic integration/reintegration of vulnerable people, including migrants
- Develop and share key messages in local languages through trusted and accessible channels targeting different audiences within communities
- Incorporate the minimum actions of community engagement and accountability in each activity in emergency situations, and set up a mechanism for monitoring the actions taken, and to adapt the responses according to the reactions of the communities
- Strengthen the capacity of the National Society's technical staff to protect and assist vulnerable people, including migrants, and to carry out community engagement and accountability
- Adapt access to Senegalese Red Cross structures and infrastructure for people with disabilities

Enabling local actors

The Senegalese Red Cross is committed to pursue its institutional strengthening, and has carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process twice, in 2011 and 2017. The self-assessment part of the OCAC process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities.

The Senegalese Red Cross aims to be a financially autonomous National Society with competent human resources and departmental operational committees which fully support resilient communities. The IFRC network is committed to support the Senegalese Red Cross in its development, according to the priorities it has set for itself.

In 2022, the Senegalese Red Cross embarked on a major set of internal reforms of its systems and services. This includes the complete revision of all its procedure manuals (administration, finance, human resources, logistics) and the development of a risk management framework.

The IFRC and the Senegalese Red Cross are committed to transforming the National Society and strengthening accountability and transparency. In 2023, the National Society will receive an allocation of funding from the IFRC Capacity Building Fund. This funding will be used to strengthen the National Society's Integrity Framework, providing technical support and expertise to reinforce its existing control and prevention mechanisms and systems, to increase accountability.

Engaged

To strengthen its auxiliary role with local and national partners in Senegal and function better in coordination with its partners, the Senegalese Red Cross will work to increase its visibility through communications and public advocacy. This will include development of internal and external communication mechanisms to mobilize resources (including fundraising, telethons, gala evenings and fairs), development of a harmonized visual identity for the National Society (Senegalese Red Cross logo and emblem) and optimization of the Senegalese Red Cross website.

In line with IFRC Strategy 2030, the Senegalese Red Cross will also work on its digitalization, providing local and regional structures with computer equipment and

high-speed connections, to facilitate their access to information and to set up effective management. The data protection component will be strengthened in 2023.

Accountable

The IFRC and the Senegalese Red Cross are committed to transforming the National Society and strengthening accountability and transparency. As part of IFRC's dedicated support, an allocation will be approved from the IFRC Capacity Building Fund in 2023. This funding will be utilized to strengthen the Integrity Framework of the Senegalese Red Cross, to provide technical support and expertise, reinforce its existing control and prevention mechanisms and systems, to increase accountability. In 2023, a dedicated technical staff for organizational and capacity building will be recruited at the IFRC country delegation to provide support in National Society development.

The Senegalese Red Cross strives to create the right conditions to increase partnerships to reach more people in vulnerable situations, while being a partner of choice and a more effective, accountable and well-functioning National Society. This includes the development of a resource mobilization unit and development of a strategy to help the National Society mobilize resources for its core and programme costs.

IFRC network-wide planning and reporting will be essential and the IFRC network will assist the National Society in developing a robust mechanism for monitoring. A strategy and action plan will be developed to mitigate the risks of fraud and corruption, sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse. It is also planned to strengthen financial management within the National Society's branches to increase organizational efficiency.

Trusted

To further strengthen its vast volunteer base, with the support of Movement partners and through the IFRC Capacity Building Fund, the Senegalese Red Cross has initiated an update of its volunteer database. The National Society will work to further promote volunteerism in the country, and provide training of volunteers, to ensure they have focused capacities in various areas. It will also establish partnerships with vocational training and financing structures to support the integration of young people from the Senegalese Red Cross.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC has a country cluster delegation in Dakar, which has legal status with the government. The IFRC support to the Senegalese Red Cross centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development, and humanitarian diplomacy. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme. The IFRC supports the National Society in strengthening its auxiliary role by meeting key stakeholders at government level on a regular basis.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the Senegalese Red Cross through a number of Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) [operations](#) in relation to floods, food insecurity and population movement. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IFRC, through its [Global Emergency Appeal](#), has supported the National Society in its COVID-19 response.

The IFRC also provides technical support in a range of areas, including operational capacity building, disaster risk reduction, health and water, sanitation and hygiene, food security and livelihoods programmes, migration and organizational development.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing common priorities; co-developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, of links with development assistance, and of efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Senegalese Red Cross is part of the Sahel+ Resilience Platform and holds the position of Permanent Secretariat of the platform. This platform, created in 2018, includes a steering committee and three technical groups - on food security and livelihoods, migration and housing - which bring together designated focal points and technical staff from Movement components that are part of the overall resilience platform. Their ambition is to create a common understanding and vision

among members, increase communications, information generation and capacity, and shape a collective voice through common advocacy tools and messages.

Since 2018, the food security and livelihoods technical group of the Sahel+ Resilience Platform, is partially financially supported by the British Red Cross, through a coordinator position and funding for parts of the action plan. This thematic group, as part of the new 2022-2024 action plan, aims to build the technical, participatory and influencing capacity in food security, livelihoods and nutrition of the 10 Sahel+ National Societies, including the Senegalese Red Cross. In 2022, the working group organized a workshop to define a joint regional food security and livelihoods initiative for the 10 Sahel+ National Societies, with the aim of sustainably improving food security, nutrition and livelihoods of populations affected by conflict and climate shocks in Sub-Saharan Africa. A concept note for this regional food security and livelihoods initiative has been defined, consisting of a preparation phase (development of the action plan) and an implementation phase (2023-2028).

The main focus of the regional food security and livelihoods initiative are:








- Social protection, prevention and emergency response - integrating and complementing government actions
- Preparedness, anticipation and adaptation (with a focus on food production systems) to the impacts of climate change
- Socio-professional integration
- Capacity building

The regional food security and livelihoods initiative, under the umbrella of the Sahel Resilience Platform+ , is supported by the following Movement partners: IFRC, ICRC, British Red Cross, the Red Cross Red Crescent [Climate Centre](#), and the IFRC [Livelihoods Centre](#), hosted by the Spanish Red Cross.

A number of participating National Societies have established long-term partnerships with the Senegalese Red Cross, and also provide support in emergency operations:

Belgian Red Cross supports the National Societies in the Sahel in community monitoring, health, disaster preparedness and response, including forecast-based

Participating National Society Support - Bilateral

Name of Partner NS	Funding Requirements	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
Belgian Red Cross	CHF 0.27M								
Italian Red Cross	CHF 0.05M								
Spanish Red Cross	CHF 0.55M								

Total

0.87M

financing, contingency planning and deployment of additional capacities in four National Societies. In addition, the Belgian Red Cross plans to work on strengthening the capacity of the Senegalese Red Cross in first aid.

British Red Cross supports projects in risk reduction, food security, migration and organizational development.

French Red Cross participates in the Senegalese Red Cross emergency migration plan and provides support through decentralized international action, by sending many students to the Senegalese Red Cross training centre in Thiès. The French Red Cross also plans to support the capacity building of the National Society in first aid.

Italian Red Cross supports the National Society in organizational development and migration.

Monaco Red Cross plans to support the capacity strengthening of the National Society in first aid.

Spanish Red Cross works with the National Society mainly on migration (part of a regional programme), livelihoods and food security, women's rights and health. It has a presence in the Casamance region. The Spanish Red Cross also contributes to capacity building on preparedness and disaster risk reduction, and through the [Livelihoods Centre](#) for food security and climate-smart livelihoods.

Turkish Red Crescent supports organizational development projects and social and solidarity actions.

Movement coordination

The Senegalese Red Cross ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies, for alignment of support and action between Movement partners. During emergencies, and from the onset of crises, information is shared with all partners in country to coordinate technical support and mobilization of resources to respond. This is carried out in line

with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The ICRC supports the Senegalese Red Cross in migration activities, food security, first aid, protection and international humanitarian law, and in organizational development.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Senegalese Red Cross works closely with the public authorities. In Senegal, the management of natural disasters is entrusted to the Directorate of Civil Protection, hosted in the Ministry

of the Interior. The Senegalese Red Cross, as a partner of this structure, is called upon to deploy response teams. In the aftermath of the 2022 heavy rains, the President of the Republic activated the National Plan

for Organization of Relief (ORSEC) which includes the Senegalese Red Cross in the relief and rescue component, alongside the fire brigade and the hygiene services. This enabled the coordination of assistance actions with the various government services, local authorities and actors working in the response to the floods. The administrative and local authorities in the affected areas were mobilized by the government for immediate action.

As part of its participation in the ORSEC Plan, the National Society provides the Ministry of the Interior with a full set of pumping equipment and shelter materials (tents) for disaster affected populations. The ORSEC plan is launched by the government when the scale of a disaster is at red level and the response capacities of local authorities are overwhelmed. During the 2022 floods, at the request of local authorities, the National Society provided support for the draining of water by making available three motor pumps and four generators. At management level, the president of the Senegalese Red Cross and the operations coordinator participate actively in all meetings with the Minister of the Interior to define the intervention strategy and monitor its implementation. For coordination, the presidents of the local, departmental and regional National Society committees participate with the administrative authorities in meetings to monitor the situation, and in regional and departmental committees with governors and prefects for the coordination of actions, the harmonization of interventions and the mapping of actors. The decentralized authorities are responsible for the distribution of tasks among the different actors.

The Senegalese Red Cross is also partnering with the Ministry of Health in provision of personnel, capacity

building, logistics support (rolling stocks), project and programme funding. With the Civil Protection, the partnership includes support to the National Society in disaster preparedness and response activities, and capacity building.

The National Society is increasingly engaged in coordination and planning platforms in Senegal, such as the Humanitarian Country Team, and the various sectoral coordination groups and thematic groups. The Senegalese Red Cross is integrated in the humanitarian and health coordination platforms, such as community surveillance, the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council, the harmonized framework, and the household economy analysis working group. The Senegalese Red Cross is well recognized for its community base and its ability to mobilize relief and rapid response teams. Its status as an auxiliary of the public authorities is one of the characteristics that facilitates and makes necessary its presence around other state and non-state partners in the coordination platforms.

Other partnerships include: various United Nations agencies for project and programme funding; USAID for emergency health projects, funding for disaster preparedness and response projects, and flood management; Practical Action for strengthening of the operational capacities of the intervention teams, and funding for disaster preparedness and response projects (floods).

IFRC's partnerships with the private sector, including the Coca Cola Foundation and Nestlé, have enabled the Senegalese Red Cross to expand its work in emergency health and water, sanitation and hygiene interventions, as part of the COVID-19 response.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) data
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with **192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** and around **14 million volunteers**. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

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