

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Senegal reported its first confirmed COVID-19 case on March 2. As of 24 July, there were 9422 cases, 6291 fully recovered and 182 deceased persons. Almost all health districts are now affected but with the highest concentration of cases in the regions of Dakar, Thiès, Diourbel and Sédhiou. The Senegalese government is leading the response and prevention work with support of key partners including UNICEF. Many preventive measures were initially put in place including a state of emergency, school closure, night curfew and closed borders, which are now progressively being lifted. Schools reopened partially on 25th June, starting with examination classes. Recently, the air space was re-opened and international flight resumed since 16 July.



The government recently revised its COVID-19 case management operating procedures, a process in which UNICEF provides technical support to the Ministry of Health, along with other partners. It has changed from treating all positive cases in hospitals or other centres to treating asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases in their homes. This home-based care strategy includes home visits and support from health care staff and psychologist, as needed. The mobile health team can also support the detection of early signs of complications and arrange for transfer of the patient.

The delivery of protective equipment, thermometers, oxygen concentrators and hygiene items to the regions most in need is ongoing.

The work on supporting the Ministry of Education in the current re-opening of schools continues.

UNICEF and partners are supporting the government initiative "Zero street children in the context of COVID-19" with the aim for 'talibés' (attending coranic school) and street children to return to their families or to alternative care centers. UNICEF also helps provide psychosocial care to all vulnerable children.

Situation in Numbers



9422 COVID-19 confirmed cases
182 deaths



3,500,000 Children affected by COVID-19 school closures

UNICEF's COVID-19 response

Coordination

UNICEF plays an important role in support to the national coordination, mainly the government coordination unit *Centre des Opérations d'urgences sanitaires* (COUS). Out of the eight commissions, UNICEF is leading the one on Risk Communication and Community Engagement. Together with WHO, UNICEF co-leads three commissions (Coordination, IPC, and Surveillance) and another one with WFP in Logistics. UNICEF also coordinates the group of partners in child protection.

Health

Regarding the management of cases, our focus is to ensure the functionality of the treatment centers for children and to strengthen the capacity of health staff to manage COVID-19 cases, while ensuring the prevention and protection of medical staff.

- UNICEF contributes to the safety of the population and health care staff by distributing personal protection equipment.
- UNICEF joined the Ministry of Health in the joint multisectoral national supervision mission earlier in July to assess the response to COVID-19 in regions and districts. In particular the land entry points that



Health worker with protective equipment provided by UNICEF

have a high flux of entries into Senegal in anticipation of the re-opening of the land borders.

- In preparation for the Tabaski (Eid) on 31 July, UNICEF and partners supported the Ministry of Health in developing operating procedures on preventive measures in this celebration period during which many gatherings and travels are expected.
- On July 11 UNICEF and the Embassy of Israel launched a new programme to support the local production of 20,000 protection visors for health staff through local 3D printing. The implementation is carried out by a group called SN3DCOVID19 including scientists, engineers, technicians and others.



Demonstration of the 3D printing of the visors



Handover ceremony of 3D printed visors to the Ministry of Health

WASH

In this key area of work, UNICEF supports handwashing campaigns and disinfection actions in health centres, public places, communities and schools. Thanks to support from UNICEF to the 14 regional hygiene services in Senegal, the following results have been achieved:

- 85 hygiene officers (431 in total) were trained in infection prevention and control.
- 221 community health workers were trained in good hygiene practices and other preventive measures, making it 1,546 in total trained.
- 197 hand-washing stations (1,756 in total) were installed in health centers, isolation centers (for infected persons and their family members) and other public places.
- 2,308 hygiene kits (9,474 in total) were distributed to households with infected person.
- 1,329 homes of persons having tested positive for COVID-19 were disinfected as well as 654 treatment centers, isolation centers, markets and other public places.
- 657 schools and coranic schools were disinfected.
- 100,877 people were informed on good hygiene practices, making the total number 598,913 people informed.

Risk communication and community engagement

- Members of several local youth associations in Kolda are involved in the response to COVID-19. They have been trained and provided with hygiene and protection kits by UNICEF. They are now carrying out awareness-raising activities in their neighbourhoods and in local schools.



Member of the local Girls club in Kolda informs about COVID-19 to children in a school

- The youth association DECLIC launched its "Winning Corona" project with support from UNICEF. For this purpose, 25 members of the association were trained on risk communication. Among other activities, DECLIC will mobilize 300 community health workers in the Ziguinchor region to strengthen community engagement.



Training in risk communication to DECLIC

- 20 trainers at central level received training on risk communication by UNICEF under the coordination of SNEIPS (unit working with communication in the Ministry of Health). These trainers have trained 263 media professionals and members of regional COVID-19 management committees from different sectors in the six priority regions for UNICEF in Senegal.



Education

We mainly support the continuation of learning for the 3,5 million students affected by school closure, and support preparations for school reopening, including upgrading of WASH facilities.

- Hygiene kits, including handwashing stands and thermometers were procured and distributed to 1,486 public primary and secondary schools as well as to all teacher training institutions



nationwide with UNICEF support. This is a continuation of the preparation for the partial reopening of schools initiated on June 25 (exam classes).

- Safe school protocols were developed with health and education authorities with support from UNICEF in preparation for school reopening.
- The national distance learning initiative "Learn from Home" is being deployed by the government with support from UNICEF. This includes a national TV channel for the provision of distance education "Canal Education". In addition, a digital platform and phone app have also been established to facilitate access to lessons, learning materials and other resources online.



Signing of the agreement between the Ministry of Education and community radio network URAC

- A radio-based learning programme will be aired from the end of July in partnership with the government and with UNICEF's support. The purpose is to extend learning opportunities to children without access to internet, digital devices and TV. The broadcasting will be done in partnership with national radio channels and 120 community radios operating nationwide. A partnership agreement was recently signed between the Ministry of Education and the national network of community radios (URAC).



Child protection

Our main priority is to provide psychosocial support to children affected and children exposed to increased risks of exploitation, violence and abuse.

- Within the initiative “Zero street children in the context of COVID-19” initiative led by the government, UNICEF has supported the child protection committees of Bignona and Bounkiling for the withdrawal and return of children in the street and obliged to beg. Nearly a hundred children were taken care of and returned to their families.
- More than 1,370 ‘talibés’ and street children have been identified in the regions of Dakar, Fatick, Kaffrine, Kaolack et Ziguinchor since the beginning of the operations (39 additional children during the reporting period). Out of these, almost 60% returned to their families (814 children in total). 261 children are currently placed in protection centers.
- As shown by the data collected through RapidPro in Pikine district, access to services has decreased during the first months of lockdown. It is now increasing with the lifting of the restrictions. In fact, in 2020 the monthly average number of reported cases through RapidPro is 107 whereas in April only 39 cases have been reported to specialized services.
- 1,800 children (208 girls and 1,592 boys) without parental or family care were provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements by local child protection services.
- 1,907 children experiencing sexual and physical violence have been referred to local services and provided with appropriate care (319 girls and 1,588 boys).

- With the support of UNICEF, 80% of children born in the health facilities in the Sédhiou region were registered at the civil registry between March and May 2020. These results have been achieved mainly through the collaboration between health centers and the civil registry service. One important element is the birth registration desks in the health centres providing support to parents to newborn babies.



Social protection

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF as the co-lead of the social protection working group in Senegal, has played a covering role along with ILO and other relevant donors, to ensure better coordination and integration of the different interventions in the sector.

The socioeconomic profile of the households and children of the single register has been finalized to facilitate the targeting of social protection interventions. A policy brief on the impact of the pandemic in child protection, education, health, nutrition hygiene has been developed jointly with the INGO Save Children and will be widely disseminated and used for child rights advocacy initiatives.

The establishment of a real-time monitoring of the demand of basic social services by the most vulnerable people is underway and will form the basis for more concrete follow-up in the coming weeks.

Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes

UNICEF along with the other UN agencies in the country has carried out a review of the joint Senegal UN annual work plan (UNDAF). This review enabled the prioritization and adaptation of interventions contributing to the COVID-19 situation and response.

An important pillar of UNICEF's response is to ensure the continuity of vital health services for women and children, in particular maternal and infant care, immunization and nutrition services. With the current school closure, most of our education interventions are now focussing on providing alternative learning opportunities and WASH interventions in the reopening of the schools. In child protection, efforts prioritize violence prevention and response, as well as strengthening alternative care for affected children.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF Senegal is amongst the main development partners supporting the government in its COVID-19 response, together with WHO and other international organizations. We have ongoing dialogue with key bilateral and multilateral partners, foundations and companies. We have received valuable contributions from the Governments of the US (USAID), Japan, Canada and the UK as well as from the Global Partnership for Education and the UNICEF US Fund. We want to express our gratitude to all private and public partners who have expressed an interest in working with UNICEF to strengthen our work for the children in Senegal in these challenging times.

We have started new partnerships with several civil society organizations, such as DECLIC, URAC (Network of community radio) and Social Change Factory in key areas of the COVID-19 response. UNICEF also works in close collaboration with the other main UN agencies and development partners in the country. This is mainly done through the interagency and sectoral coordination groups that have been in place already before the crisis.

External Media

UNICEF's Country Office Representative, together with the Israeli Ambassador in Senegal, held a handover ceremony on 11 July with the Minister of Health. They launched an innovative programme for the local production of visors by 3D printing for the protection of health staff. The initiative aims to initiate the production of a first batch of 20,000 visors, to be scaled up in the future.

The programme is implemented by SN3DCOVID19- a group of scientists, engineers, managers, civil society actors and start-up companies. They launched their work in April 2020 to participate in the fight against COVID-19 by promoting local prototyping and equipment manufacturing using 3D printing, laser cutting and other innovative techniques. The ceremony was covered by national TV and other media.

<https://bit.ly/2C5ziDr>

<https://bit.ly/3fwKHul>



Handover ceremony of 3D printed visors to the Ministry of Health

Many youth initiatives supported by UNICEF have been carried out during the period. Between June 30 and July 15, publications on Facebook generated 1,461,395 reaches, 68,896 engagements and 556,068 impressions. On Twitter, publications generated 309 impressions and 18 engagements.

<https://bit.ly/3fwjQyv>

<https://bit.ly/3j472BF>

Words of thanks

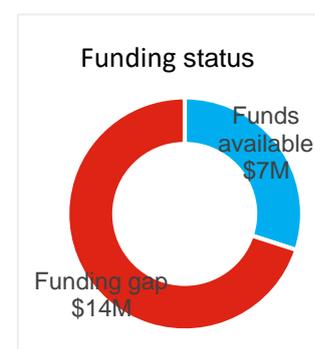
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Summary of Programme Results

Sector	UNICEF and IPs Response	
	2020 target	Total results*
Risk Communication and Community Engagement		
Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services.	1,200,000	803,458
Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions.	5,000	5,000
WASH & IPC		
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services.	400,000	587,486
Number of healthcare facilities staff and community health workers provided with Personal Protective Equipment	5400	2000
Number of health facilities and services provided with critical WASH items	500	411
Nutrition		
Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM).	28,320	8,611
Education		
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning	1,000,000	N/A
Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control).	500	1,486
Child Protection and GBV		
Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements.	30,000	1,800
Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support.	200,000	535
Number of UNICEF personnel & partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation & referrals for survivors, including for PSEA.	150	N/A
Social Protection		
Number of households receiving multi-sector cash grant for basic needs.	1,000,000	N/A

Annex B Funding Status, USD

Sector	Funding required	Funds available	Funding gap	Gap %
C4D / RCCE	2,500,000	350,000	2,150,000	86
WASH & IPC	4,000,000	4,914,476	3,515,524	44
Nutrition and health	4,830,000			
Child Protection	2,200,000	922,808	1,277,192	58
Education	3,050,000	1,086,791	1,963,209	64
Social protection	1,100,000	120,000	980,000	89
Social science research	300,000	30,000	270,000	90
Total	17,980,000	7,424,075	10,555,925	58



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