Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Senegal reported its first confirmed COVID-19 case on March 2. As of 17 August, there were 12,237 cases, 7,728 fully recovered and 256 deceased persons. 68 out of all 79 health districts are now affected, but with the highest concentration of cases in the regions of Dakar, Thiès, Ziguichor, Diourbel and Kédougou. The Senegalese government is leading the response and prevention work with support of key partners including UNICEF. Many preventive measures initially put in place including a state of emergency, full school closure and night curfew, have now been lifted. Schools reopened partially on 25th June, starting with examination classes. The air traffic has also re-opened, while the land borders remain closed.

The government has further revised its COVID-19 case management policies, processes in which UNICEF provides technical support to the Ministry of Health, together with other partners. Less people are now getting tested and more resources focussed on treatment of those having tested positive. Unless in need of advanced care, people having tested positive are now treated in their homes with support from health care staff.

Our work on rolling out distance learning opportunities in partnership with the Ministry of Education continues. We also continue supporting the Ministry in preparing the schools for the planned general school opening in mid-November.

UNICEF and partners continue supporting the government initiative “Zero street children in the context of COVID-19” with the aim for ‘talibés’ (attending Quranic schools) and street children to return to their families or to alternative care centers. UNICEF also helps provide psychosocial care to all vulnerable children.

UNICEF’s COVID-19 response and continuity of social services

**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 & Nutrition**

- UNICEF has distributed supplies and material for treatment of severe acute malnutrition in all 14 regions of the country. The health centres are thus now prepared for an increased number of malnourished children following COVID-19.
- UNICEF participated actively in the development of the National Standards on protective measures during the important muslim holiday Tabaski at the end of July.
- Staff participated in the follow-up mission to observe how neonatal care units function during COVID-19.
- UNICEF staff participated in the evaluation of health controls of passengers entering Senegal by air.
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (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:

- 45 community health workers were trained in good hygiene practices and other preventive measures, making up a total number of 1,606 trained.
- 140 hand-washing stations (1,947 in total) were installed in health centers and other public places.
- 681 hygiene kits (10,238 in total) were distributed to households with persons having tested positive.
- 653 homes of persons having tested positive were disinfected as well as 263 treatment centers, markets and other public places.
- 496 schools and coranic schools were disinfected, making the total number of schools disinfected 14,372.
- 49,415 people were informed on good hygiene practices, making the total number 668,231 people informed.

Risk communication and community engagement

Cases resulting from local transmission are increasing sharply due to the weak respect of barrier gestures from the population. UNICEF continues to support community mobilization to stop the spread of contamination.

- 90 participants from regional and district management teams and head nurses were trained on risk communication and community engagement on stigma, violence, rumours, denial, re-opening of classes and continuity of services.
- 15 community leaders in each area of responsibility of the District Health Posts in Touba have strengthened capacities on risk communication and community engagement to conduct outreach activities on COVID-19.
- Two radio spots per day on barrier gestures are broadcasted for three months at district level by two radio stations in Touba.
- 12,000 volunteers are engaged in the fight against COVID-19 through a new community engagement strategy being supported by UNICEF. Through this initiative, 5,000 community volunteers carry out home visits. During these visits, they inform about protective measures and hand out personal protective equipment such as masks, soap and hydro-alcoholic gel.

- In Kolda region, 90 youth volunteers from six girls’ clubs conducted 1,800 home visits. During these visits they informed about barrier gestures, installed hand washing stations and gave out protective equipment.
As part of communication work being supported by UNICEF, 20 imams in Kolda and Velingara and 20 priests are active in raising awareness about COVID-19 in their communities.

Religious leaders engaged in prevention activities

A community information office on COVID-19 has been set up in Ziguinchor by the youth association DECLIC with support of UNICEF. The staff members are disseminating information to the community and are counteracting false information and rumours about the virus.

The inauguration of the community information center in Ziguinchor

51 “Ndeyu daara”, women community volunteers, provided assistance to children in Koranic schools with hygiene kits and practical advice on barrier gestures and hand washing.

Community volunteer Mariama Gnamadio

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.

- A radio-based learning programme has been deployed by the government with support from UNICEF with the objective of extending learning opportunities to children without access to internet, digital devices and TV. The programme is focusing on foundational competencies in literacy and numeracy. It is broadcasted through the national network of community radios and interaction with learners is facilitated by teachers.

- UNICEF has supported the development of paper-based solutions including production and distribution of exercise books. In addition, home visits have been conducted by teachers for learners in the most remote areas.

- With a view to ensure that student teachers can complete their training programme and be deployed in time for the new academic year, UNICEF supported distance training, benefiting 1,975 student teachers.

- UNICEF has supported the health and education authorities in developing the education sector response plan and the safe school protocols in preparation for the school reopening in November.
**Child protection**

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

- Since March, at least 3,796 talibés and street children have been identified in the regions of Dakar, Fatick, Kaffrine, Kaolack, Sédhiou and Ziguinchor. Out of these, 3,367 children have returned to their families, while 263 children are currently placed in protection centers (mostly children from neighboring countries).

- 4,313 children (including talibés and street children) without parental or family care were provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements by decentralized child protection services.
- 4,390 children experiencing sexual and physical violence have been referred to decentralized services and provided with appropriate care.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, UNICEF is developing tools and training material for the training of education stakeholders on the “Framework for the detection and management of harmful and dangerous situations affecting students”.
- Within the initiative “Zero street children in the context of COVID-19”, UNICEF has launched a mission to share experiences among community protection committees involved. Thus, the committees of Dagana, Saint Louis and Théys were able to benefit from the experience of the Bignona department in order to readapt their strategies based on the good practices identified.

**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 convening 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 UNICEFs 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 proving 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, Korea and the UK as well as from the Global Partnership for Education and the UNICEF national committees of the US and Spain. 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

A series of visuals were developed and posted on UNICEF’s social media networks. These are some of the Facebook posts:

https://web.facebook.com/unicesenegal/posts/2939956079459889
https://web.facebook.com/unicesenegal/posts/2938319332956897
https://web.facebook.com/unicesenegal/posts/2935060059949491
https://web.facebook.com/unicesenegal/posts/2928461050609392
https://web.facebook.com/unicesenegal/posts/2884458108343020

In total, our Facebook posts generated 11365 views and the twitter posts 611 views.

Words of thanks

We want to express our gratitude to all private and public partners who have engaged with UNICEF with the joint objective of strengthening our work for the children in Senegal in these challenging times.
### Summary of Programme Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>UNICEF and IPs Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2020 target (revised)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Risk Communication and Community Engagement</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services.</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions.</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WASH &amp; IPC</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services.</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of healthcare facilities staff and community health workers provided with Personal Protective Equipment</td>
<td>5400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of health facilities and services provided with critical WASH items</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM).</td>
<td>28,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control).</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child Protection and GBV</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements.</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support.</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of UNICEF personnel &amp; partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation &amp; referrals for survivors, including for PSEA.</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Protection</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of households receiving multi-sector cash grant for basic needs.</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Funding Status, USD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Funding required</th>
<th>Funds available</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
<th>Gap %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C4D / RCCE</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>492,000</td>
<td>2,008,000</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH &amp; IPC</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>2,544,194</td>
<td>1,455,806</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition and health</td>
<td>4,830,000</td>
<td>3,319,505</td>
<td>1,510,495</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>2,200,000</td>
<td>1,172,808</td>
<td>1,027,192</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>3,050,000</td>
<td>1,281,790</td>
<td>1,768,210</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social protection</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>980,000</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social science research</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,980,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,348,642</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,631,358</strong></td>
<td><strong>48</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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