

ActionAid Senegal 2018 Annual Report



Acronyms

AAS: ActionAid International Senegal

AJS: Senegalese Lawyers Association

APROVAG: Association des Producteurs de la Vallée du Fleuve Gambie

AFD: French Development Agency

CAADP: Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme

CBO: Community Based Organisation

COSYDEP: Coalition des organisations en synergie pour la défense de l'éducation publique

CNCR: National Farmers platform for Rural Cooperation and concertation

CRSA: Climate Resilience Sustainable Agriculture

CSO: Civil Society Organisation

CSP: Country Strategy Paper

ELBAG: Economic Literacy Budget Accountability and Governance

FGM: Female Genital Mutilation;

GAC: Global Affairs Canada

GAFFSP: Global Agriculture for Food Security Programme

GEP: Education and Population Group

GPE: Global partnership for Education

GRPS: Gender Responsive Public Services

HRBA: Human Right Base Approach

MEL: Monitoring Evaluation and Learning

PSE: Senegal Emergency Plan

PRS: Promoting Right to School

PNIASAN: National Agriculture Investment plan for food security and Nutrition

SDG: Sustainable Development Goal

SCOFI: Association for Girl Education

SNEEG: National Strategy for Gender equality and Equity

TIRPAA: The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Contents

Acronyms.....	2
Contents.....	3
Foreword from the Country Director.....	4
Introduction.....	5
Who we are?.....	5
Vision and Mission.....	6
Areas of intervention.....	7
Country context.....	8
Organisational priorities.....	8
2018 Programme Achievements.....	9
Priority 1: Increased recognition of the impact of negative gender norms on girls and women’s rights in three regions of Senegal.....	9
Summary of the findings of the social norms study.....	10
Women’s rights achievement, (16 days of activism).....	10
Priority 2: Ensure that communities address two social barriers that limit girls’ access to education in three regions of Senegal.....	16
LRP partners engaged on Social accountability and budget transparency.....	17
achievements under priorities 2.....	18
ActionAid Senegal contribution to the promotion of Promoting Right to School (PRS).....	21
Senegal National Volunteer report on SDG.....	22
Priority 3: Promote Women’s economic empowerment through the elimination of social norms that limit their rights to sustainable management of natural resources.....	23
Our contribution to the 3Rs(Right , Redistribution and Resilience).....	25
Organizational shift.....	29
Improving HRBA and gender perspectives in programming.....	29
Building partners capacity to empower communities.....	30
Embracing digital technology for learning in solidarity.....	31
Engaging on Fundraising to improve support to poor and excluded communities.....	32
Our Contribution to promote federation wide priorities through our engagement to international platforms.....	33
Social media engagement.....	35
Organizational Development.....	35
Finance performance.....	36
Income 2018.....	37
2018 Expenditure.....	37

Foreword from the Country Director

I am delighted to share with you our 2018 annual report. This annual report is part of a new journey started in 2016 with the change management process and the adoption of the country strategy paper (2018-2022). 'Social justice for women and girls- act now. This CSP was adopted at a very critical moment in time for ActionAid Senegal, as the country was grappling with a reduction of income and staff transitions.

This report clearly articulates the progress made since then and highlights the key achievements, challenges and lessons learnt based on the implementation of our 3 programmes priorities with our partners, communities' members, youth activists, Children clubs, watch dog committees, reflection action circles members, traditional and religious leaders, school management committees, local district authorities, national partners.

As a human- right- based and social justice organization, working with vulnerable communities directly or indirectly is not only the matter of responsibility but it's living our values of accountability, solidarity, transparency, etc.

These series of activities carried out in 2018 show how collective actions and commitments have helped empower women and girls leading to a shift power. In addition, we have learnt that when we build the capacity of authorities, religious and traditional leaders and ensure that they get the right information which will enable them to take the right decisions and improve the quality of public services for women and girls. The report gives clear understanding and progress on how we are tackling social and economic injustice and promoting social justice at all levels.

In my view some of these reported achievements cannot be attributed to a year's work but are part of the progressive results of our programme approach which emphasizes the intersectionality of our work and the connection from local to national and global levels.

We wish to express our gratitude to our local and national partners, donors, institutions, and our very committed staff for their support and contribution to the implementation of our collective's objectives.

My sincerely

Zakaria Sambakhe



Introduction

ActionAid Senegal is happy to share in this report some of the stories of change from 2018 programmes priorities. These stories explain how we are contributing at community, national and global levels to shift visible, invisible and hidden power. It also shows how we make impact on the lives of the communities we work with. These stories of change are the result of the implementation of different activities from our programme framework which is in line with our Country Strategic Paper three priorities (2018- 2022) and ActionAid Internal global strategy. From an accountability perspective It was also important to show the extent to which we are making impact at the different levels and how we are supporting communities especially women and girls shift power.

Basing ourselves on our partnership policy which require synergies, mutual respect, complementarity mutualization of resources and forces from local to national and global, ActionAid Senegal gives priorities to communities' voices and collective empowerment of women. With the aim of fighting poverty and injustice, we worked with social movements including reflection action groups, women groups, watch dog committees Activista, extension services, traditional and religious leaders and CSO's platform at the national level because we strongly believe that the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) can help amplify the voices of more vulnerable people. This way of working resulted in a better coordination of our policy influencing work.

During our CSP II implementation period, we have been very active in changing false narratives, by deepening the analyses and giving a clear picture of the context locally, nationally and globally. Because each context and situation require a specific strategy, specific messages for specific targets, propositions and resources especially when it comes to social and cultural norms. In addition, the stories generated are used as evidence to inform our advocacy work, our fundraising efforts as well as our monitoring and evaluation system. These stories are also considered as powerful tools to generate Knowledge, which can be used for sharing and learning within the federation and more particularly in various platforms. From fundraising perspectives those stories dictate our proposal development for fundraising and enhance our visibility. 3 projects have been secured in 2018, the implementation started in 2019. We have a number of proposals in the pipeline.

To test our theory of change, the identification of key players at all levels is very critical, because of the added value that each actor can bring to the collective actions and make a difference.

Since change is not linear, 2018 was not the end of our collective engagement to achieve social justice for women and girl it's an additional step in a long process that fuels us to be more innovative in term of how we anticipate the challenges with our partners, allies and other supporters. This will also require to be more agile, responsive, competitive and focused

Who we are ?

ActionAid Senegal (AAS) has been operating in Senegal since 2002 Over the last decade, ActionAid has built a recognized niche for addressing inequalities of power with people living in poverty with specific focus on women's rights and application of Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) and feminist analysis to development in Senegal.

Vision and Mission

A just, equitable and sustainable world in which every person enjoys the right to a life of dignity, freedom from poverty and all forms of oppression.

To achieve social justice, gender equality, and poverty eradication by working with people living in poverty and exclusion, their communities, people's organisations, activists, social movements and supporters.

ActionAid Senegal is part of the AA Federation and started work in Senegal in year 2000, focusing on three out of the 14 regions of Senegal (Fatick, Tambacounda and Kedougou) covering five out of the 45 Departments (Foundiougne, Tambacounda, Bakel, Kedougou and Goudiry) in nine localities (Djilor, Niodior, Foundiougne, Dioussong, Koussanar, Missirah, Bala, Kedougou and Bakel) wrapping 160 communities. ActionAid is a global justice federation working to achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication. In Senegal, ActionAid works to strengthen the capacity and agency of people living in poverty and exclusion, especially women, to assert their rights. We work with communities, people's organisations, women's movements, farmers' movements, other social movements, groups and networks and other allies to overcome the structural causes and consequences of poverty and injustice. We connect the work we do at community level with broader efforts and struggles for justice at national and global levels to make the greatest contribution towards a just, equitable and sustainable world.

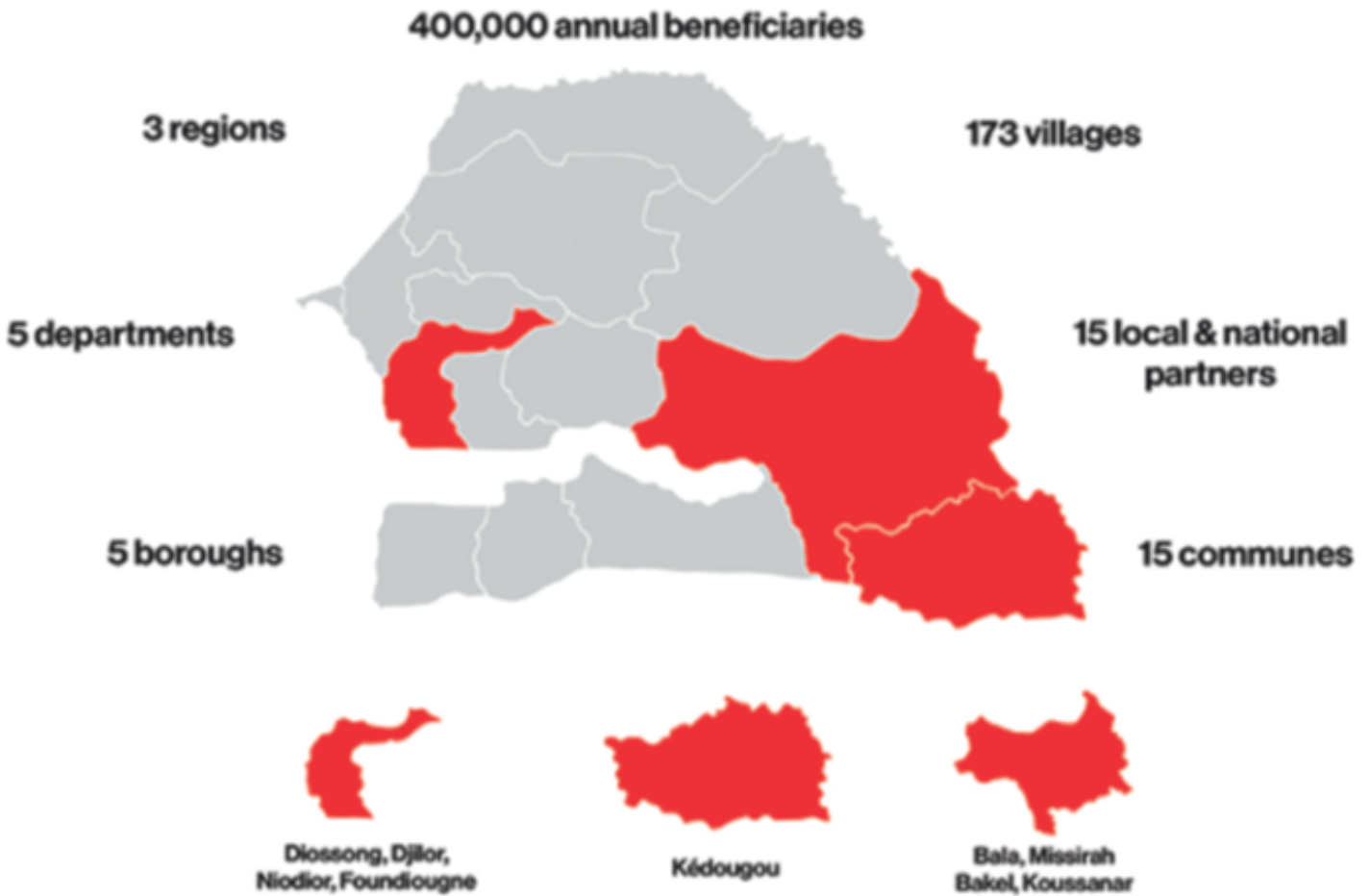
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Areas of intervention

Actionaid Senegal operates in 3 regions: Tambacounda, Kedougou(eastern zone), Fatick(central zone) because these regions are among the poorest in Senegal. The headquarters is in Dakar and a region office in Tambacounda.

Local Rights Programs (LRPs)



All the achievements mentioned below in these areas were possible as a result of strong partnership approach with local, national and international Civil society Organizations.

Country context

Senegal has a population of about 15 million inhabitants. Senegal's 2016 macroeconomic performance was its strongest in a dozen years— with a growth rate of 6.6%. This rate makes Senegal the second fastest growing economy in West Africa and the fourth fastest in Sub-Saharan Africa. This is largely due to high production in the fishing and agricultural industries, although other sectors, such as the tourist and extractive industries have also increased their output. This economic growth follows the implementation of the phase II of Plan Senegal Emergent (PSE), The Plan for an Emerging Senegal, which aims at fighting inequality and injustice by providing assistance to poor families, equal opportunities to disabled people, and universal healthcare. Additionally, Senegal imports 46% of its staple foods, which increases the potential of food and nutritional crises because of our dependence on the global market. In the poorest households, the proportion of agricultural employment remains very high; despite this active involvement in agriculture, poverty is still high at community level. The poverty rate is around 53% (Monitoring Survey in Senegal (ESPS-II) in 2015, this rate is not fixed since it can vary from year to year depending on the efficiency of social protection efforts which target poor families and communities. This rate decreased significantly in 2018 as a result of government effort in terms of ensuring social protection support stipends to poor family (Bourse familiale) . It's in this context of poverty, gender base violence and injustice, exacerbated by the neoliberalism system and harmful practices, that the CSPII, implementation started.

The Pre-election period in Senegal was an opportunity to support boost communities, national and local partners to engage with different potential candidates to seek their agreement for better consideration in their programmes. In addition, CSO use that to talk about restriction and shrinking civic participation.

The implementation of the Country Strategic Paper Priorities (2018-2022) is based on the 3 organisational priorities.

- Priority 1: Increased recognition of the impact of negative gender norms on the rights of girls and women in three regions of Senegal
- Priority 2: Ensure that communities address 2 social barriers that limit girls' access to education in three regions of Senegal.
- Priority 3: Promote women's economic empowerment through the elimination of gender norms that limit their rights to sustainable management of natural resources

Organisational priorities

- Strengthen our structures and systems
- Strengthen staff and partners capacity and deepen accountability
- Increase brace our solidarity with social movements including youth activist
- Improve our financial sustainability through aggressive fundraising and diversification of our sources of income.
- Strengthen our communication and campaign



2018 Programme Achievements

Priority 1: Increased recognition of the impact of negative gender norms on girls and women's rights in three regions of Senegal



The country programme devoted the year 2018 to strengthen the capacities of the actors involved in the implementation of the new country strategy. The year 2018 was mainly devoted to strengthening the capacity of the actors involved in the implementation of the new strategy.

Indeed, we were aware that even if the theme of social norms is not new in itself, its conceptualization, apprehension, appreciation and management is difficult to capture, especially in a context of variance related to the nature of each people culture. The assessment of issues surrounding gender violence in the light of social norms therefore required a good understanding of the prevailing social norms, violence and their management. As a result, the country programme initiated national training on social standards and indicators for implementing partners and communities. This training of trainers, which benefited 32 people, enabled participants to understand social norms, their foundations and how to start eliminating their negative aspects. The training, conducted in partnership with TOSTAN Senegal, was then extended to approximately 5950 people, among whom 3174 women, covering 208 communities for all 9 Local Right Programs (LRPs) in the three regions where ActionAid operates. The training led to the identification by the communities themselves of the negative aspects of social norms and the identification of the types of violence most prevalent in their localities. Thus, many communities have identified physical and economic violence as a direct result of certain social norms and practices. Under physical violence, the definition of communities includes moral or psychological violence. They identified forced marriage, child marriage, female genital mutilation, domestic violence and other forms of physical violence against women and girls in Senegal on a regular basis. This violence is based on norms such as the obligation of submission and obedience imposed on women, marriage is considered as the destiny of every woman and their value can only be assessed by this status which is closely associated with motherhood. As a result of these various training processes and the identification of social norms, the communities were involved in setting up community structures to manage cases of violence. The process of creating these structures is ongoing. The training sessions were preceded by a national study on social norms that covered ActionAid Senegal's three intervention regions, namely Fatick, Tambacounda and Kédougou. The study was conducted with the involvement of nine local partners, extension services and communities.

Summary of the findings of the social norms study

The study revealed that:

- More than half of the women in Senegal have experienced at least one form of physical violence before the age of 30.
- FGC and child marriage are the most resistant and widespread social norms in the study areas with a dominance in the Tambacounda region.
- The marital status of women remains the major determinant of their value and future in society. This status is associated with the role of being a primary care giver and giving birth. Following the dissemination of the study, 315 social and religious leaders, 35 from each LRP, were trained in the management of issues of violence induced by social norms.

45 anti-violence committees have been established within Reflection Action circles. These committees will be responsible for addressing issues of violence in their respective communities during the CSP period. In addition to this process, awareness-raising campaigns on violence against women and girls have resulted in the annulment of two child marriages with the support of SCOFI and social services in the Bala and Missirah areas.

Celebrating our women champions!



As part of our contribution to shift power and improve women leadership at all levels, ActionAid Senegal celebrated women champions. Those women are identified as champions based not only on their experiences and contribution to empower themselves but also on their ability to empower other rural women. They have been trained on women leadership, management, negotiation, advocacy, in food processing, etc. Most of them benefited from training in 2015 on governance economic and political participation which enabled them to be elected as counselors in their various municipalities.

They committed themselves in promoting and defending women's rights everywhere. This has boosted their social, political and economic recognition in the nine LRPs but also at national level. In addition, they were called invisible Giants and were selected and recognized by the women at their respective communities as leaders. These women are role models of courage and success and will accompany their communities to engage them in protecting and promoting women's rights. They are considered as a source of inspiration for their sisters. These nine women champions have played a key role at the national-level during the key events and have been able to politically influence key processes at both the local and national level.

For example, during the celebration of the International Women Day on March 8th, 2018, the Invisible Giants accompanied women groups in a lobby and advocacy meeting with the deputy ministry of women affairs. The meetings focused on various themes such as the review of Senegal's agricultural policy (PANIASAN), monitoring the quality of public services and their gender sensitivity. This allowed the circles to initiate their engagement plan with local authorities update them on women's rights and inform advocacy actions at the national level. As a result, many municipalities increased their recognition of women's rights and committed themselves to invest more resources in women's activities and investments.

Women's rights achievement, (16 days of activism)



ActionAid has also initiated a communication campaign on Gender Based violence (GBV) the types of violence and the political and legal frameworks that protect women against all forms of violence. The campaign, which consisted of a series of posters large format and fixed and mobile media, reached more than 20,000 peoples in Dakar, Fatick and Tambacounda regions. It has allowed citizens to know certain legal provisions against harassment, rape, economic violence, etc. The national campaign was accompanied by a community campaign led by the 80 Action Reflection Circles of the country programme and directly involved more than 1500 people, most of them are composed of rural women and girls.

In Kedougou LRP, a women platform has been set up with the support of the AFD project. The platform is leading advocacy work for women access to land, economic empowerment and for their access to decision making spaces. They are becoming key catalysts of change in the region of Kedougou. In Bakel LRP, the councilors have been able to block the vote of the budget in 2018 because of lack of transparency as a result of the right information and skills they got through ELBAG trainings. It's only after a mediation session led by the prefects (state representative) that budget was adopted. This is a manifestation of when people understand their right, they are able to make big and positive change. The gender clubs, girls' clubs and reflection Action in Koussanar LRP (eastern zone) have started a number of sensitizations in the 33 communities that compose the LRP and their champion of change (named Coumba Guindo) is actively engaged in advocacy to end child marriage and FGM in Koussanar, one of the most impacted area by these two forms of Gender Based Violence's.

Story of change 1: The importance of collective actions to address the issues of violence's in Missirah community

Sexual violence has very serious consequences and constitutes an attack on the physical and psychological integrity of the victims. In general, rape is considered as a shame for the family and is managed discreetly. With the LRP budget from the child sponsorship funds, awareness raising sessions, training on social norms, promotion of Girls' Right to Education and women's rights in Missirah were carried out. This awareness of women helped to break the silence and encouraged them to denounce cases of violence against women and girls. From legal perspective, Senegal adopted since 1999 a law against Female Genital mutilation (FGM) since that time only few cases have been reported to justice. Which means that there is a temptation to hide this harmful practice. The story of Diouma which require collective action happened in Missirah one of our LRPs.



Background

Diouma, who lives with her grandmother in Missirah, was raped at the age of nine when she was at the first stage of primary school in Missirah community. The case was managed at family level which means no denunciation. Indeed, in most of the communities like Missirah girls are rejected and discriminated when they were raped even if the perpetrator of the rape is known or arrested. According to the policy in the education sector a girl who gets pregnant early is to be sent out of school as it is perceived that she will be a bad influence on the other girls. She can be also excluded from home because early pregnancies are considered to be immoral and socially unacceptable. due to unequal power relations between the perpetrator and the survivor many families are unable to denounce the cases of sexual violence. This despicable act was carried out by her uncle's friend (a person very closed to the family) while her grandmother was away from home. As a result of the mobilization of family and community members, the perpetrator was arrested and released after only four months while the punishment of raping minor in Senegal is about 10 years of prison.



Diouma, who came from a very poor family, has finally abandoned school and was forced to help her grandmother with domestic work and family responsibilities that weighed heavily on her. Her widowed grandmother had to sell bananas in order to provide for the family, which resulted in her travelling every day from her community to markets. The victim's elder sister also dropped out of school because of their difficult situation and vulnerability. With this situation Diouma, started developing psychological issues which manifested resulted into isolating herself, difficulties in relationship with others, lack of trust, and self-confident fear of boys and men.

Action Taken

In collaboration with the Association of banana Producers in the river valley of the Gambia (APROVAG), our LRP implementing partner in the eastern regional of Senegal, we conducted a women rights analysis as well as a vulnerability analysis. This enabled us to better understand the situation and identify the different rights of Diouma that had been violated. The fact that she abandoned school to help her grandmother increased her vulnerability and exposed her to child marriage and unpaid care work. This has compromised her future and resulted to lack of support and self-confidence.

During the 16 days of activism a forum on the impact of early pregnancies and parental responsibilities was organized in Missirah high school in partnership with the Association for the promotion of girl school (SCOFI). The forum was a call for synergies and action to end all form of violence and to implement Maputo declaration related to fight all form of violence and discrimination against women and girl.

In addition, paralegals were also trained and watch clubs were set up to denounce any case of sexual harassment and rape. A focal point for child protection has also been appointed by community members. ActionAid and APROVAG, in partnership with public services and local partners supported the provision of a psychologist who meets Diouma on a regular basis. ActionAid Senegal, the women groups, the girl club, have decided to support Diouma and her grandmother.

Change brought in Diouma's life

As result of the collective actions and synergies between partners, communities, communities based Organisation, extension services, women group and activista, Diouma started building trust. She is ready to go back to school and continue studying because she wants to be a doctor. She is now learning sewing in a vocational training center. She also joined the women groups as well as a watch dog committee. We can see more solidarity action, and this clearly demonstrates the importance of building collective power of people living in poverty.

Diouma, now regularly participates in capacity building and systems set up to allow women to access to public services. We were able to create a linkage between communities and Justice and police through the paralegals and watch dog Clubs. Missirah communities are targeted to contribute to the one global campaign on women labor decent work gender responsible service.

The power is really in the people. This is our learning. with a little support vulnerable people can discover their individual and collective power. We learned also that there is a need for us to reinforce our work around promoting the legal framework at local level. We decided to join our forces with women movement, and youth activists. Because with this case, we noticed that the lack of information about all the legal provisions in favour of women are not easily accessible, and many women are not aware of the legal implications.



Story of change 2: Celebration of women champion/ Invisible giants in 2018



Making the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) a reality, the requirement to "leave no one behind" requires urgent action in rural areas to ensure an adequate standard of living and a life free from violence and harmful practices.

Given the experience and commitment of AAS concerning women's rights and the orientation of its new country strategy, International Women Day have been celebrating this year the 8th of March at different locations (Tambacounda, Kédougou, Fatick) and at the national level with civil society actors fighting against gender-based violence.

This year, International Women's Day is part of a global collective movement. The sexual harassment which many women are facing as victims has been in the news. This has led to many victims coming out and has also revived a public debate about sexual violence stimulated by a strong determination of women to bring about positive change. Thus, this year's celebration was an opportunity to turn this movement into action, to empower women in all contexts (rural and urban) and to celebrate women leaders who work tirelessly to advocate women's rights and to realize their full potential.

In this context, AAS and its partners have decided to organize a citizen forum at the level of the LRP to offer rural women a framework of exchange with social and political leaders to discuss the types of violence they face and to think about response mechanisms to eliminate them. This reflection was an opportunity to highlight the importance of social and political commitment to these VAW issues. These forums have created a strong advocacy platform and have amplified women's voices.

The celebration was also an opportunity to present the results of the scorecard to the communities to enable them to measure the level of commitment of the authorities. This evaluation revealed a low level of compliance with commitments.

This was therefore an excellent opportunity to not only make the voice of rural women activists heard but also to follow up on the commitments of the previous international day.

Priority 2: Ensure that communities address two social barriers that limit girls' access to education in three regions of Senegal

In 2018, ActionAid Senegal engaged to eliminate at least two barriers based on social norms that limit girls' right to education and the availability of quality and gender-sensitive public services. In this regard, the country programme continued the review process governance particularly in the education sector. The process started since 2017 with different important moments. The data collections at LRP level started in 2018. This resulted in the production of alternative reports on the situation of education in the nine LRPs. This exercise involved 178 schools, including 5 education inspectors and more than 200 teachers for approximately 26,000 students or learners. A total of nine LRP reports were completed, covering four of the ten rights in the Promoting Right in Senegal (PRS) framework. These different rights identified by the communities are: right 1 (right to a free public primary school), selected by Foundiougne LRP, Right 3 (right to quality infrastructure), chosen by Koussanar, Missirah, Niodior and Diossong, LRP Right 5 (right to a non-violent environment), chosen by Kédougou, Bala and Bakel LRP, Right 9 (right to participatory and quality governance) chosen by Djilor LRP. These reports, which were compiled from the 178 school reports, were returned to the communities involved in the research exercise and resulted in the production of 5 departmental reports, which were also returned to the authorities, and 3 regional reports, which have finally represented the national citizen report on the school situation in the Fatick, Tambacounda and Kédougou regions.

This ongoing process is being conducted in close collaboration with the regional offices of COSYDEP and SCOFI. In total 178 School Management Committees, with 1602 people mainly from the communities and 178 School Directors was involved. It also involved 139 associations of pupils' mother, 1799 children and 178 associations of parents of pupils.



It is worth noting that these structures are quasi-mandatory bodies for all schools, which is a major step forward in promoting good governance in schools. The new structures have decentralized and brought decision making on education matters closer to the people. Another big achievement is that the second major phase of the process will focus on the development and implementation of school management plans. In parallel with the PRS process, awareness-raising actions have been initiated in order to uphold girls' right to education. These actions enabled us to identify the situations of extreme vulnerability of girls to sexual violence, which sometimes leads to large numbers of young children who are prevented from continuing their studies. These campaigns have led to parents challenging social norms such as child marriage, submission and the girl's vocation to family care. Thus, in Missirah area, with the support of SCOFI, a student destined for marriage was able to resume her studies despite being married because her parents were sensitized of the need to uphold her rights, in particular and in general the importance of education for girls. ➡

➔ As result enrolment campaigns to issue birth certificates for students, especially girls, have also been initiated to enable girls to attend school and those already enrolled to participate in examinations. These campaigns enabled more than 6,000 children to obtain their birth certificates with the support of local courts and educational extension services. In the same vein, ActionAid Senegal in collaboration with local partners and extension services supported the enrolment of 3,570 children in health insurance companies in order to provide them with health care if necessary.

All these actions were related either to the quality of public services or to the rights addressed by the LRPs in the context of the implementation of the PRS framework. This makes it possible to have coherent actions leading to a single result: the well-being of the child. Regarding the monitoring of the quality of gender-sensitive public services, the country programme initiated a national training on ELBAG of partners on monitoring the quality of governance system.



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LRP partners engaged on Social accountability and budget transparency

In order to hold the government and municipalities to account and to provide partners and community members with skills to better monitor the budget implementation, ActionAid Senegal organized 10 days training on ELBAG. About 40 participants from national and local partners were able to assess and monitor the quality of local governance. These were able to stimulate collective reflection on participatory budget and school governance in their respective areas. For example, in Bakel LRP, the Action Reflection Circles and school management committees were able to demand the placement of safety devices financed by the municipal budget on the way to school to protect girls against violence. The same communities were able to block the validation of the 2018 municipal budget due to a lack of transparency in budget planning. In Foundiougne LRP (center Region of Senegal), women groups in the circles were able to obtain the establishment of a participatory process for the municipality budget planning. In Koussanar (Eastern region of Senegal) elected officials trained in their roles and responsibilities in budget planning decided to monitor compliance in accordance with the Senegalese decentralization code and law. The civil society actor has put in place the participatory budget process. The process undertaken makes it possible to directly question the visible power established through the model of development, which not participatory. As a result, some municipalities are involving communities during the budgeting development process.

Achievements under priorities 2



In Missirah LRP, after the ELBAG training, 882 women met local authorities to claim for gender sensitive budget for women farmers at local level. They are developing an advocacy plan to continue pushing for change.

1178 women and 245 youth in Foundiougne LRP have initiated a protest because of lack of public services especially clean water for one week thank to the capacity building received on their rights. since then they have obtained the installation of cisterns to make drinking water available. the authorities have also finally begun the work of repairing the pipes for the drinking water supply.

ActionAid also contributed to the review of the voluntary country report and was able to ensure that special attention was paid to SDGs 4, 5, 11, 12 and 13, which call for urgent action by Senegal.

During the World Conference on the Replenishment of Education Resources held in Senegal in February 2018, ActionAid also promoted the production of a Senegalese civil society position paper on public funding for public schools in Senegal. This document served as a guide for civil society actors involved in the conference and continues to serve as a roadmap for advocacy actions at the national level.

Story of change 3: Asmao is back to school because life is a struggle

Education is an important means to build a strong foundation to achieve development and eradicate violence against women and girls. In that regard girl's education in Senegal despite all the efforts is still a challenge to maintain them is another battle we can and should win collectively. According to the Statistics only 27% of girls complete secondary school in rural community. Harmful social norms are part of the risk's factors of this situation. Among these harmful practices, child marriage, early pregnancy, Female Genetic Mutilation (FGM) are the main causes of dropout in ActionAid's intervention zones. →

➔ Also, the lack of educational provision also encourages the parents' decision to remove their daughters from school to give them up for marriage. ASMAO, 17 years old is an example of social struggle to promote girl's education. she lives in Missirah district (one of our Eastern region LRP) in Tambacounda region. She comes from a polygamous family and has 4 brothers and 4 sisters. She was in grade 13 from 2016 - 2017 school year and had an average of 12.20 ranking. She has just obtained her Certificate of Completion of Medium Studies (BFEM) at the Abattoirs College, Tambacounda. In June 2017, At the end of the school year, she was happily preparing to join her village for the holidays, Asmao heard from her father on her return that she will have to stop studying because she will soon join her husband. She gets married to a man from her village without consulting her. The alliance was already sealed between the two families and it remained only consumption of the nuptials. Shocked and Affected by this unilateral decision (power over), Asmao founded refuge with her uncle in the city of Tambacounda right (60km from Asmao village) Asked about her personal perception of her situation, ASMAO answers the following questions: She has definitely refused this forced marriage. So, there was absolutely no question for her to talk about earlier dropping out of school.



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Asmao's uncle participated in community sensitization on Promoting Right in School (PRS), Asmao's uncle then undertook, with the support of his wife (elder sister of Asmao), to seek solutions in order to prevent this gloomy future for Asmao, of dropping out of school for various reasons derived from social norms or economic reasons. Asmao got support from her sister and her uncle both of them engage mediation with her parents in order to cancel the marriage. ActionAid and the Scofi (Girls Education association (SCOFI) first began mediation to cancel the marriage but without success. The good news was that they obtained that Asmao would not drop out school and the marriage would not be consumed until 18 years as recommended by the Senegalese civic law. Asmao then moved to town again, the SCOFI one center called Kinkeliba took charge of Asmao's school fees. By removing this burden of parental responsibility, this solution has made it possible to overcome the resistance of the father and the husband. Asmao was able to continue her studies. In reality her story is a clear manifestation of the invisible power established in the communities and which still greatly influence the daily lives of girls in rural areas. It was also a manifestation of visible power based on a limitation of the article 111 of Senegalese family code which states that marriage is possible between 18 years old if it's a boy and 16-years old if it's a girl and Asmao is in that case. From our analysis this law needs to be review, ActionAid Senegal is working with the Senegalese lawyer's association and scofi as well as the Girl Not Bride National Coalition to advocate for review of that law which limited girls' aspirations for a future other than marriage and caring for the family. As a result of our work with the SCOFI and other local and national organizations, Asmao was able to continue her study she is today in high secondary class of grade 9. We hope that Asmao will finish her studies to become a nurse or a doctor. ➔

➔ At the same time to become a women leader. With the of Scofi (which is an organization specialized in supporting girls' education to become a really. Scofi is committed to fight negative gender norms that prevent access and retention of girls in school.

To amplify our collective voice and demand to prevent and protect girls right to education, ActionAid started with a community sensitization and training campaign on the ten PRS rights. We then trained the management committees and the children club to improve their understanding of their rights. In addition to empowerment, we helped communities to organize and initiate a study to assess respect of the ten rights in their schools. Asmao and her uncle benefited from ActionAid's interventions as well. The uncle as a member of the management committee of her school actively participated in the action research on the level of respect of the law No.3 in Missirah LRP where they are originated. We adopted this approach because we were convinced that sharing knowledge and power is an important tool to generate individual and collective actions from communities leading to the realization of their fundamental rights. The retention of Asmao at school is a result of community leaders changing mindset, conscious building of right holders allows them to act on their own and to get out of the condition of dependence and oppression.



ActionAid Senegal contribution to the promotion of Promoting Right to School (PRS)

ActionAid Senegal devotes 40% of its annual program budget to the education governance theme under the Priority 2.

It has made available to communities to be familiar with PRS Framework documents as well as resource persons for capacity building from civil society in order to ensure the linkage of our intervention in the context and national educational policies. In terms of trained populations, we estimate that we have trained 4,590 people in 510 School Management Committees, including more than 1,100 women.

A population of 55,000 students among whom 36,667 are girls. We collaborate with the three main teachers' unions that support the implementation of the PRS.

In addition to the PRS documents, we have facilitated the access of communities to national and international political documents ranging from national laws (starting with the constitution), to Senegal's international commitments on this theme integrated in the PRS sharing sessions.



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We linked our actions on the PRS with ELBAG and 4S trainings as a prelude to community engagement in budget monitoring at the local level. We have also built our commitment to education on our Gender Responsive Public Services (GRPS) framework as a comprehensive framework of engagement to advocate for better redistribution of resources that takes into account the rights of vulnerable and marginalized people.

In terms of learning, the process allowed us to understand that Challenging social norms imposes to engage with the social network of the person concerned by our actions. In addition, the impact of social norms is a reality in our society even if some change is happening. It is therefore important to understand the management of social norms calls for a break of individualistic paradigms to engage a systemic and holistic approach that involves the entire social to obtain the following three results: (i) adherence to abandonment or change, (ii) The change of attitude or mindset, (iii) the adoption of new social practices.



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Story of change 4, Senegal National Volunteer report on SDG

ActionAid Senegal also participated in the national non-state actors review of the implementation of the SDGs in Senegal this year. Senegal Civil society focuses on the SDG2, 4, 10, 11 and 16. The report has been submitted to the government and relevant institutions. ActionAid Senegal contributed on SDG 2, 4, 10, 11 by providing a deeper information's and sharing experience from ground on how our participatory method is contributing to bridge the gap about vulnerable community's participation to policies implementation. This have enabled us ensure linkage to our CSP and recommended to add the SDG 5 to the next round of review. This process began with a contribution from ActionAid to the establishment of a national SDG monitoring platform in Senegal.

As a result, ActionAid has support the development an annual roadmap to support the implementation of the SDGs by the Government of Senegal on one hand the participatory development of a monitoring framework to measure the pledge made by the government of Senegal to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) meeting of February 2018 on the other hand . The platform is an autonomous, self-financed entity that is now committed to proactivity advocacy for pro poor policies and through dissemination actions of the SDGs to the most remote communities. This allows us to raise their voices and bring objectives criticism to government actions UN agencies. The same plan will continue in 2019 with focus on SDG 5, 4 and 2.



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Priority 3: Promote Women's economic empowerment through the elimination of social norms that limit their rights to sustainable management of natural resources

In ActionAid Senegal our engagement on women's access to land and strengthening their livelihoods has always been the basis of our programme in Senegal. The country's context of climate change and rapid and uncontrolled urbanization associated with mining shows a drastic loss of arable land. In such contexts, where social norms in some areas prohibit women from owning land or other natural resources, they are in a situation of extreme vulnerability and almost total dependence on their families or husbands. It is therefore important that women be made aware of their right to own and control land so that they can practice agriculture, which remains the main income-generating activity for rural areas in Senegal.

At the beginning of the implementation of second country strategy paper, ActionAid Senegal engaged communities in reviewing the political and legal framework around agriculture in Senegal so that they would understand its content and scope and therefore the implication that these policies could have on their daily lives. This exercise is being conducted with the support of the agricultural technical services and sister organizations such as the National farmer platform for Rural concertation and cooperation (CNCR), which targets 1357 women and 56 councilors from the nine intervention areas of the country programme. The process ended with strong statement made by women to see more improvement and more financial support to small holders' farmers to enable them to make the most use of the land.

Women have also been trained on Fao's voluntary guidelines that promote gender and equity in the management of natural resources. The training contributed to establish a clear responsibility at community level on the management of natural resources.



The country programme through its partners has also undertaken training in agro-ecological technics to enable communities to adopt new farming technics (organic agriculture) more adapted to the context of climate change. In Foundiougne LRP, 75 women followed the training cycle in composting and conservation technics to enable them to improve their production and improve the quality of their fish products and make them competitive on the local market. 55 women received small ruminants whose milk sales provided them with resources to care for themselves and their families. Under priority 3, 1692 farmers received peanuts, millet, maize and rice seeds. This has affected communities furthest from decision-making centers in regions such as Kedougou and unable to afford even subsidized seeds. This has enabled 176 families to improve their food sovereignty and 180 women have improved their incomes, thus enabling them to support in some cases primary needs such as health care, children's school fees, etc. Access to resources and especially to arable land is one of the challenges that rural women faced because of the invisible powers induced by social norms that discriminate women and confine them in to household role. →

➔ The code of conduct developed by ActionAid Senegal in 2017 made it possible in 2018 to create a unifying framework open to women within communities so that they can participate in decision-making processes within the framework of natural resource management in their respective localities. With the code of conduct, 12 municipalities represented by 36 elected officials and 238 beneficiaries, including 78 women, have been trained in the need for sustainable and responsive use of available natural resources, particularly for fish and forest products. All these initiatives have been implemented under the framework of the Climate Resilience Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA) in its pillars of soil conservation, water management, biodiversity conservation and gender equity and women's rights. To support these community commitments and political influence work, ActionAid in partnership with communities also initiated two participatory research exercises. The first study focused on the economic value of the monkey bread sector in Bala's LRP, where this product is one of women's main sources of income. The study revealed that although the sector is full of potential for exploitation and expansion, the method of exploitation of the product and the influence of commercial intermediaries constitute a sustainability risk that could limit its commercial reach. Communities have therefore been trained in sustainable baobab fruit harvesting techniques, and women's organization into cooperatives to improve their access to markets and empower them vis-à-vis commercial intermediaries is ongoing and will continue in 2019.



The second study focused on the role of women in farmers seeds conservation in Fatick and Tambacounda regions. The study, which target of 903 small farmers, 618 of whom were women, aimed to understand the sociological role of women in the preservation of peasant seeds recognized as alternatives against GMOs in Senegal. This study also had to demonstrate whether or not there was sufficient seed capital to be valued and supported. And that was the case. The study found that while women do play the primary role in seed conservation from harvest to storage mainly through community seed huts and family granaries, they lose almost total control when male-dominated seedling arrives. This is a clear example of patriarchal system with invisible power, which is consolidated by visible power, given that the custodians of subsidized conventional seeds are men and heads of families. The report informed ActionAid's political commitments to promote the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (TIRPAA) alongside other national actors. These reports inform communities actions plan to ensure the effective realization of their rights. We were able to mobilize farmers movements and CSO actors to get political commitment from the government to prioritize agroecology in the next 5 years.



Our contribution to the 3Rs (Right, Redistribution and Resilience)



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To address the 3Rs (Right , Redistribution and Resilience) ActionAid Senegal focus on putting in place in collaboration with LRP partners and national CSO a community of practices on Resilience livelihood with national farmers platform, ENDA PRONAT, the umbrella of NGO, etc. the process of the development of Tool kit for the defense of natural resources as well as the development of the Promoting right in school regional report, enable us to build a culture of learning and sharing not only at local level but also at national and regional level with different partners including in some extend the states actors and UN agencies like FAO, World food programme and UNWOMEN.

These different experiences led by women in the communities contributed to change the people's mindset and reduce the degradation of the resources, improve the governance and the management of natural resources. The advocacy work to demand access to water, good quality of seed, access to free education services for boys and girls demonstrate how parent are willing to send their children to school and how state is also ensuring there is redistribution lead to shift the conversion and attitudes of people. The Promoting Right to School (PRS) report has also contributed to change the discourse and conversion that some community's leader have when it comes to girl's education.



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Story of change 5, When the HRBA transforms women leadership



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She is 53 years old and lives in the commune of Bala in the department of Goudiry, region of Tambacounda. She belongs to the reflection Action group of this commune set up by ActionAid as part of its intervention in Bala LRP. This district is one of the poorest areas of the region of Tambacounda due to multiple causes. This area is facing critical issue of access to water either for consumption or for agriculture (which is the main source of income for families). So, the rate of food insecurity is quite high there (around 37%). The area is known for its high rate of migration (41%) mostly practiced by men leaving women and children alone. Socialization of women is very strict limiting their actions and their life to obedience to men, early marriage and family care. So Fatoumata Diallo's life, a widow mother of 4 children (two girls and two boys) living in the city of Bala was not easy. Fatoumata Diallo takes care of her children alone. Her eldest daughter is studying to at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar. She supports the school fees for all her children who start school on time with all their supplies and is up to date with their secondary school fees (which are not yet free in Senegal). She takes care of her nephews and nieces who came from their communities to continue their high school or to do business or any other small job in town. Fatoumata Diallo pays her house electricity bill and provides the daily livelihoods for about ten people. She also supports her family members who remained in the communities of origin around the commune of Bala. In fact, Fatoumata Diallo is the head of house hold. One of many heads of families not recognized as such by the society and public policies because they are JUST WOMEN.



Her story"I am a widow living alone and who was disrespected by my in-law's family because of my limited resources. I had no other perspective than depending on the support provided by my family. I did not know my potential or my rights as a human being. I just knew the traditions and the obligation of obedience of women in our society. When my friends told me about the reflexion-Action circle, I decided to join it initially to entertain myself and get out of my house. But I learned a lot of things. I had space in the family yard that I was trying to exploit, but because of the lack of water and poor quality of soil, I didn't earn much even to feed my family. We were having difficulty feeding ourselves. I was also having trouble in paying for my children's education fees. I was living in a situation of dependence on outside support. Within the group, I was trained on my rights as a human being and as a woman in society. I have been trained on my right to access land and natural resources in my community. I have been trained on my right to basic social services such as water, public school or health.

These trainings were the beginning of my transformation. Subsequently, as part of the LRP's Women's Economic and Political Empowerment Program led by ActionAid, I was trained in agro-ecological technics with the Agriculture Department. I learnt different technics such as: managing water and moisture in the soil and composting. In addition, i benefited from the installation of water basins that are supplied with drinking water for which I now have the means to pay the bills.

I was also sensitized on the importance of education for my children and especially for my daughters I have also been made aware of the negative consequences of early marriage for my daughter.

NOW.... So, I decided to put these new knowledges into practice, and it was a success. The training courses on women's rights and awareness-raising have also helped me to build my confidence and act sustainably for my own good and that of my family. I am no longer dependent on outside support to take care of my family. Thanks to the training received on Agriculture technics, I have been able to increase my production from one (01) to three (03). which is used for family consumption and the other part is sold at the local market. can now support my children school fees and other primary needs and (meals, transport, documents....). my daughter at the university in Dakar. Every year I pay 40,000 francs (around 55 GBP) for my 2 children in high school here in Bala. Because I learnt from ActionAid Education programme education is essential for their development and is the way to give them better life than early marriage. I'm now trying to share my experience and knowledges with other women to increase their awareness and contribute to build their self-confidence. It's not easy, but we'll get there. »

Story of change 6, Promoting agroecology Village in Sinthiou Coumbidia Koussanar



Tambacounda is located in the Eastern region of Senegal known by agricultural vocation where farmers harvest different crops such as maize, peanut, millet, bean, cassava, etc. different part of region is impacted by the effects of climate change that provokes a drought in some part or flood in other leading to an impoverishment of arable lands and increasing water stress. Therefore, the use of chemical fertilizer became one of the solutions which farmers depend on to cultivate. To support women farmers, to improve their resilience capacity and to prevent the negative impact of climate change, ActionAid Senegal supported communities mainly the reflexion action circles member to get trained on Climate resilience sustainable agriculture and at the same time putting in place agroecology school farmers to practices sustainable agriculture and promote organic product. The school is step up in Sinthiou coumbidia village in Koussanar Local Right programme (LRP). The school farmer is women farmers led initiative, ActionAid and the Yakaar Niani Wulli provide technical support to make it possible. two women leaders namely Habiba BA, 42 years old, President of the Management Committee of the School Garden of Sinthiou Coumbidia showed her leadership in the promotion of agroecology village using endogenous knowledge and different technics which? on to their local context.

In this context ActionAid Senegal applied the CRSA practices through the use of organic manure, production of compost, for the restoration of land degradation, the water management through the utilization of solar pump to develop mix cropping and agroforestry. The school farmer is also considered as a learning spaces where women farmers, agriculture extension services and communities members come together and build on the existing endogenous knowledge. Four main components were priorities organic agriculture, arboriculture, poultry farming and fish farming). At the same time, they were trained on land management system, in horticulture, the production and use of compost and water management through providing solar pumps and on access to market. the agroecology village became a reality because communities of Sinthiou Coumbidia are able to eat more regularly fresh vegetables free of chemical inputs. The promotion of biological product became a reality. This resulted also to change mindset in women group (120 women farmers targeted) who are able to inspire other women from neighboring village to cultivate and consume biological product. In addition, the promotion of agroecology village in Sinthiou Coumbidia led by women farmers is a response to patriarchy system which use to promote chemical fertilizer and conventional seeds at the same time marginalize women that kept them "at home" in an almost total dependence on their husbands.



Organizational shift

Learning from our previous strategy 2014-2018 ActionAid Senegal decided to focus on the current strategy 2018 -2022 to address a root cause of injustice and poverty through challenging the social norms. To meet our commitment as an social justice Organisation using feminist lens ActionAid Senegal prioritize the content gathering to build strong evidence, staff and partners capacity building in order to demystify the complexity around social norms and harmful practices. Our country strategy paper (CSPII) show a clear direction about Organisation shift which explain why we are getting more and more bold and innovative to tackle the root cause of injustice and poverty at communities' level. We also started a deeper reflection about our HRBA approach, our partnership policies and Fundraising effort because of the emerging situation such as migration, climate change impacts, shrinking political spaces, the far-right system, which contributed to violation of fundamental human rights and increase injustice, etc.



Improving HRBA and gender perspectives in programming

ActionAid Senegal committed itself to fight poverty and injustice through HRBA. The fact that The Human Right Based Approach is embedded in our programme framework and priorities show the direction we are taking to fight injustice in collaboration with LRP partners, state actors, extension services, communities. This is why we developed a very comprehensive action plan with partners to clearly demonstrate how we design programmes using HRBA. In 2018 AAS organized trainings for 40 partners at the local and national level on women rights, HRBA and wellbeing approach. This critical mass has been useful during the development of our one global campaign during the 16 days of activism where a local and national lobby tour was organized by our 8 women champions. This has facilitated collaboration with the Ministry of women affairs who decided to use our achievements in empowerment as an example in fighting poverty and injustice. In addition, 5 women group got financial support from a national women programme organized by the ministry of women affairs and its departments. This is a great achievement of our HRBA approach and our vulnerability analysis to improve gender equality because improving feminist leadership in the programming is a major change for the CP that was confronted to power and gender issues between partners and communities during the first strategy period. The manifestation of that interest can be visible during our planning process where partners and communities are able to identify using the reflect tools that gives more space to communities leading to better analyze the context shift power. They are also improving their accountability systems. In term of transparent programme implementation, they are giving more attention to women, not only as beneficiaries but as key actors of change in all the program streams and governance bodies. For example, some partners have a women right specialist which is a great step in promoting our HRBA approach.

Building partners capacity to empower communities

ActionAid Senegal has Eight local partners who have our mandate to implement our programs and projects at local and national level. In the context of the CSP II, the Country Program undertook a training cycles targeting partners staff to ensure capacity, comprehension and appropriation of the new strategic focus. In line with our partnership policies which emphasize on ActionAid values and principles, partners have been training on Promoting Right School (PRS), Community Voices for Sponsorship, the new MEL framework (national and global), gender norms with TOSTAN training on ELBAG, and Feminist principles and approaches leadership, Finance management, HR and organizational development. About 32 partners staff directly dedicated to ActionAid programmes have been trained on at least two of those topics.

These new skills helped them to better drive and manage the programmatic systems and process. For example, in line with the CS modernization project they have set up an innovate system to collect and document community voices. as a result, AA Senegal has emerged amongst the top 10 countries in the federation with regard to CS servicing. They have reviewed their planning process that gives more space to communities engagement and leading to clear shifts in power. and reinforce our transparency to right holders and supporters. They are also improving their accountability systems as a result of the training and support visit organized by our finance team. In terms of programming, partners are increasingly adopting transformational feminist leadership in their programming approach. The application of a feminist leadership lens in programming is a major change for the CP that was confronted with power and gender issues between partners and communities during the first strategy period. ActionAid is closely monitoring changes that are happening and documenting them for learning.



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Embracing digital technology for learning in solidarity



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ActionAid Senegal have strongly engaged in innovation and digital transformation through the establishment of a Facebook page (1548 Followers), Instagram page, twitter account, WhatsApp group with different partners including women platforms. Those platforms enabled us to share and learn but also receive regular feedback and suggestions about partners and communities' activities. their stories of change and the progress they are making to address power relations are used as a very simple learning with other partners and ActionAid International platforms. In addition, those information and stories of change are used as an evidence to do fundraise at national regional and global levels. Recently we got very positive feedback from donors, forumSyd in Sweden and French Development Agency (AFD) on the impact of our work and quality of two stories of change on women access and control over natural resources, especially seed and promotion of school farmers to improve sustainable agriculture and build communities resilience to climate change. These stories have been posted in donors' website.

The fact that we use social media to share our work regularly has increased the number of followers and contributed to facilitate a virtually meeting and discussion with some donors. For instance, we were able to get touch with Cross roads a Canadian Organisation based in Senegal. With this NGO we step up a consortium and won a call for proposal in 2018 on sexual reproductive health. The consortium comprised of four (04) NGOS including ActionAid Senegal and covers nine communities across the country. This is the first reproductive health project being undertaken by AAS the project will also tackle issues related to gender-based violence, gender responsive public services, social norms in 5years. Our partnership with activista in Senegal is an opportunity to amplify our youth engagement at different levels and to boost our one global campaign in a more innovative way. Those spaces give us opportunities to share our work and increase our followers.

Engaging on Fundraising to improve support to poor and excluded communities

Sponsorship links are on the decline and the need to meet our collective commitment to the communities we work with has sharpened our appetite to grow our growing institutional funding portfolio. To be efficient, ActionAid has developed a fundraising strategy that has been approved and that informs the CP's engagement in fundraising.

The radical shift we took in 2018 is to work with in consortiums as per the priorities outlined in our CSP. In the year 2018, we have been able to secure the projects outlined below.

- Strengthening the resilience of rural populations to environmental and climate change project in Kedougou. This project is funded by forumSyd with the support of ActionAid Sweden focused on improving women's resilience in the region of Kedougou. The project aims at strengthening women facing loss of arable lands, climate change and mining impact on their livelihoods. The project will run for a period of two years.

- The DAM CAM Project: this project is funded by Global Affaires Canada. It is also located in the region of Kedougou and focuses on sexual and reproductive rights of teenagers in the fight against early pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. The DAM CAM project will run for five years.

- The GASFP project: The Global Agriculture & Food Security Program is a three-year project implemented in the region of Tambacounda in the eastern region. The project will cover two LRPs, Koussanar and Missirah involving two local producers' organizations; the project that falls under our priority Three, overall goal is to strengthen rural women's livelihoods for sustainable economic development in the Tambacounda region

ActionAid Senegal will continue to diversify its source of funding through diversification of its portfolio of donors. This fundraising effort will contribute to strengthen our financial sustainability as well as staff motivation and more importantly to start our membership status. The same effort will continue in 2019 through internationalization process and beyond through a full cost recovery effort.



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Our Contribution to promote federation wide priorities through our engagement to international platforms

As part of our dual citizenship, it is worth mentioning that ActionAid Senegal is represented in three out of the four International platforms ActionAid Senegal is also recognized as IP champion in platform 3: Resilience Livelihood and Climate justice. In line with our global strategy, we initiated action research on social norms and gender violence as well as on transformative agroecology in order to build a strong evidence base that will enable us to engage in evidence-based advocacy at local national regional and international levels. We supported the building and strengthening of collective people's power by supporting the establishment of three national and regional platforms to promote economic and political empowerment of women. Our contributions to achieve the collective objectives are also effective through the monitoring of the SDGs at country level are implemented for instance the promotion of agroecology and transparent governance of natural resources have influence the national land policy reform at national level. This experience has been shared during the IP3 face to face in Bangkok and Johannesburg. In addition, through networks and coalition we have trained more than 2000 women and more than 1,300 men in issues of transparent governance in education sector as part of the PRS implementation to positively influence public services. This achievement has been shared as good example in IP2. We also developed some stories of change which are shared regularly with platform's members during the face to face, webinars and skype calls. ActionAid Senegal has also contributed to strengthen various aspects of the resilience for vulnerable people and in particular by improving livelihoods to at least 8000 direct beneficiaries and more than 36000 indirect beneficiaries in 2018.

This was also supported by capacity building in disaster management for 225 peoples, mostly women of 25 disaster management committees also in collaboration with state actors in charge of National adaption plan. These achievements are documented and shared with the federation wide and capture in the Monitoring Evaluation and Learning framework as our contribution to the theory of change and to shifting power.

As far as the linkage from local to national and international is concerned ActionAid Senegal contribution to fight violence against women by promoting public policies, public services that are gender sensitive and protective. Our work to promote women rights and to fight any form of violence is recognized by the communities, the ministry of women affairs and civil society organizations. This give us a good identity of human right and social justice Organisation in Senegal. We produced a report on the negatives impact of gender norms. The information we gather constituted a strong and powerful tool for advocacy on women and girls right in social, educational and agricultural domain. We have thus contributed to the production of evidence, to address the harmful practices and promote women and girls' rights, more precisely the strengthening capacity to denounce, the promotion and Facilitating access to public policies. →



➔ have strengthened the capacity of over 1392 women to address issues of violence and advocate gender-sensitive public policies and services during the International women day. We accompany a pole of women leaders (women champions) to support the building of solidarity and transform negative power dynamics at community level by promoting safe communities and spaces. ActionAid contributed also to the review of the national strategy on Gender and equity (SNEEG) in collaboration with women associate at local and national level. we supported the advocacy work against child marriage through promoting girls access to education as one of the strategies to make free of Child marriage during the Girl Not bride international Forum and during the celebration of Girl International Day.

We were also engaged with national CSO coalition in the production of an alternative report on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG4) to assess the situation of education in our areas of intervention in order to produce evidence on girls' access and their retention at school. We supported citizen advocacy for transparent governance of available finance and natural resources control. In that context, we used some participatory tools such as PRS, 4S and ELBAG. Thus, we contributed to the citizen debates in prelude to the presidential elections in order to get candidates promises and hold them accountable. We have developed framework for monitoring the commitments of the State of Senegal following the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) meeting of February 2018. We also participated to the advocacy work at international level where we stood with other Civil Society organizations to claim for more public funding in public Education during the Forum for Financing Education organized by ANCEFA in Togo (Lomé). All these achievements are necessary contributing to make our membership effective.

In 2018, ActionAid Senegal conducted two research studies.



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The first study focused on the impact of climate change on island areas. This is part of the contribution to advocacy for climate justice. The advocacy work was informed by some concrete experiences developed by communities particularly women farmers to challenge false solutions and promote agroecology the second study focused on the role of women in conserving traditional seeds in Senegal for the construction of evidence on women's leadership to manage agriculture and food security sector. This study aimed at developing alternatives to false solutions as well as a means to strongly promote agroecology practices that can feed the country and the world. It will enable us to consolidate and share experience one how we are supporting communities promotion of agroecology during the IP3 work the coming years. At the international level, we participated in the celebration of Kilimanjaro's anniversary (PFA meeting in Abuja) where our representative has strongly contributed to the women's declaration and voices to claim the effective allocation of the 10% from national budget (the Maputo Declaration) for agriculture sector which target women farmers. We participated to the FAO regional meetings as well as the ECOWAS and Africa union summit and climate change and innovate agriculture financing in Rwanda and Cote d'Ivoire. In line with the Kilimanjaro charter of demand and the Senegalese constitution on women land rights, we supported 1880 women to access to land and other natural resources such as: seed and finance leading to improvement of the livelihoods and food security.

Social media engagement

ActionAid Senegal use Facebook, twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp (Building groups with partners) to share information's, reports, stories, videos and events. This innovative way of communication received a very good feedback from fans and 1548 followers in 2018. The fact that our reports and videos are online enable supporters and followers to have access to useful documentation also to be well inform about our work and continue supporting ActionAid Senegal programme. For as social media is a powerful tool for increasing our visibility and also to increase fundraising efforts.

Organizational Development

ActionAid Senegal organized several trainings in 2018, which enabled both Senior management and junior staff to improve their understanding of key policies such as: safeguarding policies, Human Resources, policy, etc. to live it as a core value of the Organisation. The organization in 2018 of the staff retreat in Sant Louis, was an occasion to discuss the challenges the Organisation is facing and to reinforce the team spirit. These initiatives have contributed to put in place strong mechanisms which will help to build a strong and dynamic team that lives our values and principles. In addition, AAS have faced management transition which if it's not well managed can affected negatively the country program and will not facilitate a good working environment. This good news can be explained by the fact that fundraising effort in which the CP was embarked since 2017 is moving positively. In addition, the strategic merging with Alianza which is in a good track and the existing of full Senior Management Team (SMT). These initiatives are a good source of motivation. These initiatives can be seen also as huge opportunities for our CSP achievement and a mid-term review. But also, as an effort to be compliance with different policies such as: safeguarding policy (SHEA), Assurance policy, feminist leadership top 10 basics.



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Finance performance

The objectives of an internal control system are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets are protected against unauthorized or fraudulent use and that transactions are executed in accordance with its instructions and properly recorded to enable accounts to be kept on the basis of acceptable accounting principles. However, due to the inherent limitations of any internal control system, deviations resulting from misunderstanding of instructions, errors of judgment, negligence or other human factors can occur and go unnoticed.

Control procedures, whose effectiveness depends on the adequacy of the degree of separation of conflicting tasks can be circumvented by acts of complicity. A projection, over time, of the assessment of the internal control system may be subject to inadequate procedures; this inadequacy may be caused by changes or because the degree of reliability has deteriorated.

We have reviewed and assessed the internal control system for the sole purpose of determining the nature and extent of our audit procedures in order to express an opinion on the financial statements of Action Aid Senegal for the period from January 1st to December 31st , 2018.

Thus, the execution of our work as part of the review of the internal control system is based on the following procedures.

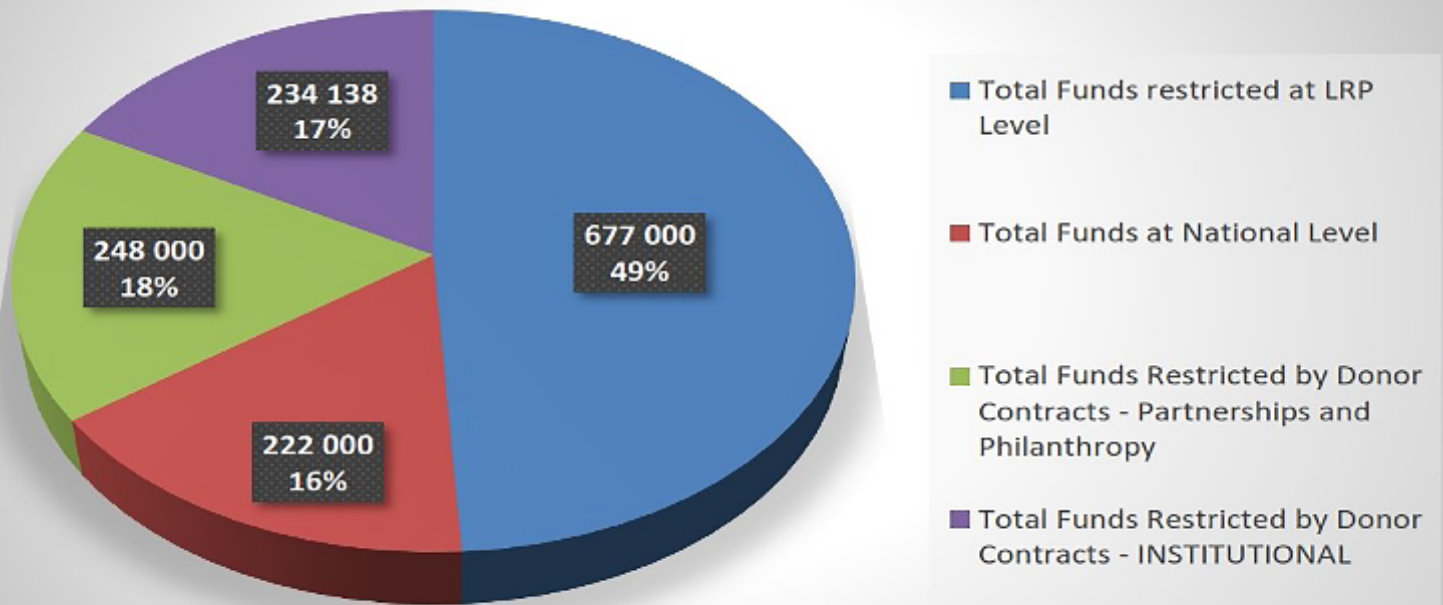
Going forward ActionAid Senegal will use its presence at different platforms (land and natural resources, agroecology, women right, education coalition, Non state actor's coalition, CAADP, as an opportunity to amplify its fundraising efforts in order to improve our financial sustainability. This will also be including our participation to the migration task force and merging with Alianza. ActionAid Senegal will also improve the quality of the programme and improve the document and communication to better penetrate donor environment.



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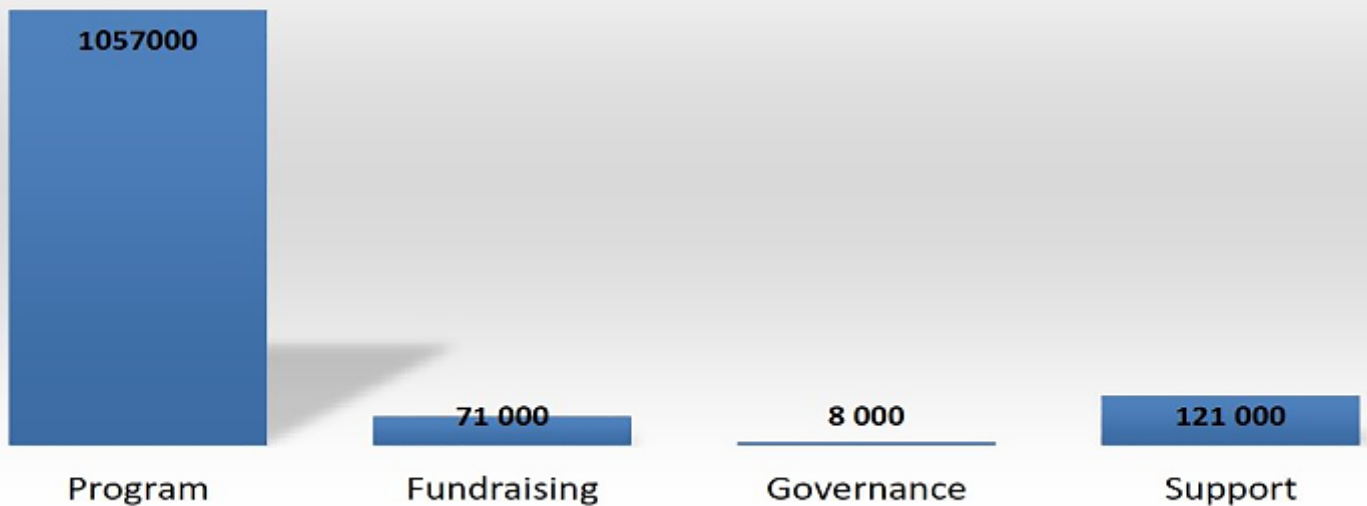
Income 2018

Budget 2018 GBP



2018 Expenditure

Expenditures GBP



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