



**AAS:** ActionAid International Senegal

**APS:** Alianza Por la Solidaridad

**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

**CMR:** Country Model Review

**CNCR:** National Farmers platform for Rural Cooperation and concertation

**CNTS:** National confederation of Senegalese work union

**CRSA:** Climate Resilience Sustainable Agriculture

**CSO:** Civil Society Organization

**CSP:** Country Strategy Paper

**ELBAG:** Economic Literacy Budget Accountability and Governance

**EU:** European Union

**FGM:** Female Genital Mutilation.

**FODDE:** Forum pour un Développement Durable et Endogone

**GAC:** Global Affairs Canada

**GAFSP:** Global Agriculture for Food Security Programme

**GBV:** Gender Base Violence

**GEP:** Education and Population Group

**GP:** Global Platform

**GPE:** Global partnership for Education

**GRPS:** Gender Responsive Public Services

**HRBA:** Human Right Base Approach

**ILO:** International labor organization

**IOM:** International Organization for Migration

**ONGIS:** Non-Gouvernemental international organisation base Senegal

**PFONGUE:** platform of European Non-governmental organization in Senegal

**PSE:** Senegal Emergency Plan

**PRS:** Promoting Right to School

**PNIASAN:** National Agriculture Investment plan for food security and Nutrition

**MEL:** Monitoring Evaluation and Learning

**REMIDEV:** Network of Civil society organization for migration and development in senegal

**ROPROCAS:** Network of female producer organization of Casamance

**SDG:** Sustainable Development Goal

**SCOFI:** Girl Education Association

**SNEEG:** National Strategy for Gender equality and Equity

**SHEA:** Sexual harassment Exploitation and Abuse

Content.....	2
Foreword from Country Director.....	3
Summary of the achievements .....	5
Who we are?.....	7
Vision and Mission.....	8
Areas of intervention.....	9
Country context.....	10
Programme priorities.....	12
Organizational priorities.....	12
Disaster Preparedness and Response programme in Senegal (DPRF 2020).....	13
ActionAid Senegal COVID 19 Response Programme.....	15
ActionAid Senegal and other CSO actors responded to stop the spread of the COVID-19 at national and local levels .....	16
ActionAid Senegal engagement on debt cancellation to invest post COVID -19 and strengthen our public services.....	17
Building Back Better: A New Social Compact post Covid-19.....	19
Progress on programmatic objectives.....	20
Priority 1: Increased recognition of the impact of negative gender norms on girls and women's rights in three regions of Senegal.....	20
Existence of progressive laws but not well enforced.....	22
Policy engagement to end FGM is one of our commitments to promote women and girls' rights in Senegal.	23
Priority 2: Ensure that communities address two social barriers that limit girls' access to education in three regions of Senegal.....	24
Story of change 1: building a resilient education system in Koussanar.....	24
Story of change 2: Women in Sinthian villages are positively transforming their communities and are connected to the regional women platform .....	26
Story of change 3: Building public relationship to increase our profile and improve state accountability at national, regional, and local level .....	27
ActionAid Senegal and REMIDEV call the Senegalese government to adopt the migration policy to restore the rights of migrants and their families.....	28
Priority 3: Promote Women's economic empowerment through the elimination of social norms that limit their rights to sustainable management of natural resources.....	29
Story of change 1: Farmer's seed system in Koussanar to promote agroecology and women food sovereignty.....	29
Story of change 2: Yama Ndiaye, women farmers in Keur Ousmane among the beneficiaries.....	30
Story of change 3: Establishment of good relationship with the extension services to promote agroecology .....	31
Story of change Bala project 4: women in the front of food system and resilience building.....	32
Organisation Priorities.....	34
Organization priorities 1: Strengthen our structures and systems .....	34
About the Country Models Review (CMR).....	34
Organization priorities 2: Improve our financial sustainability through aggressive fundraising and diversification of our sources of income.....	35
Organization priorities 3: Increase our solidarity with social movements including youth activist.....	37
Youth engagement in strategic reflexion and action to fight injustice in Senegal.....	38
Global platform Senegal an opportunity to enhance youth activism.....	39
Social media engagement.....	40
Organizational Development.....	41
Audited Financial statements.....	42
Finance performance.....	42



## Foreword from Country Director

ActionAid Senegal is delighted to share this report of its achievements and stories of change from 2020. This year our country like many others around the world was hit by the COVID19 pandemic. The stories we're sharing in this report explains how we have contributed and still contribute to saving lives and building communities resilience through our humanitarian signature. They also demonstrate how communities where we work have been able to influence decisions at local and national levels to positively transform their lives. These stories of change reflect our programme priorities in line with our Country Strategic Paper (2018-2022) which is aligned to the ActionAid International global strategy. From a governance and accountability perspective. The report will also outline how ActionAid Senegal is working to meet the deadline for the membership development process by 2022 as well as our contribution to the West Africa and Mediterranean delegation on Migration and development.

Apart from the fact that it will enhance our dual citizenship role, the internationalization process for is a step in a long journey aimed towards making ActionAid Senegal an impactful programme and enhance its relevance in socio economic and political citizen transformation.

ActionAid Senegal endeavours to translate our organization priorities into our daily work. working very closely with communities' organizations, local authorities and community leaders. ActionAid Senegal has been very proactive in supporting communities, especially women and girls during the COVID19 pandemic through different actions. As a human rights and social justice organization, working with vulnerable communities directly or indirectly we are proud to have supported more than 67222 women and girls and their respective communities to rebuild livelihoods during the Pandemic understand their rights and the means to claim them.

We are happy to celebrate some great achievements through collective actions. With the Child sponsor derestriction, the DRPF funds as well as different institutional funds, we have succeeded in supporting 20049 women, 12 851 men to access hygiene kits, sanitizers, water, we have mobilized 5330 boys and 7000 girls as change makers to support their communities and build strong advocacy messages.

The promotion of women empowerment and the development of agroecology practices was made possible by integrating innovative access to farmers seed and organic fertilizer for 70 women farmers who also benefitted from technical knowledge.

In collaboration with local partners and extension services we were able to provide support on farming techniques, seed, and cereal bank facilities for processing to add value and access to market geared towards improved livelihoods. During the lockdown characterized by school closures ActionAid Senegal and its partners were able to support 2010 students to resume teaching and learning by accessing to appropriate school manual and water facilities. Women economic empowerment has been possible through the investment in 250 AVEC (Village Savings and Credit Associations) to promote economy solidarity and access to financing for vulnerable people. This programmatic approach enables the promotion of migration and development to inform our work with west Africa and Mediterranean delegation (WAM).

Our efforts to strengthen the ability of CSO networks to hold the government to account and protect human rights defenders has been articulated in our national policy engagement in solidarity with international ONG platforms, CSO coalitions and LRP partners.



For governance and gender responsive public services, ActionAid Senegal collaborates with CSOs working on tax and education financing to advocate for more resources to support public services. This is linked to the local community level where we are implementing the Promoting Rights in School (PRS) Programme. Teachers and communities have shown their ownership and willingness to ensure that the right to education and access to public services is a must and should be fulfilled at all levels. Finally, this report provides a clear picture of the contribution ActionAid Senegal has made in transforming ' lives and bringing hope to communities.

As part of our journey to achieve global justice ActionAid Senegal believes that the intersectionality of our work and the connection from local, national, and international is key to building a strong country programme hence the work towards internationalization.

We wish to express our recognition and gratitude to the communities we work with, our local and national partners, donors, supporters, institutions, and our very committed staff for their commitment to deliver the work specially during the COVID-19 pandemic to achieve our collective objectives which is social justice for women and girls.



**Zakaria Sambakhe**

Country Director ActionAid Senegal

## Summary of the achievements



# 67222

women and girls are supported to rebuild their communities understand their rights and the means to claim them



# 250

AVEC (Village Savings and Credit Associations) geared towards promoting economy solidarity and access to financing for vulnerable people



# 32900

Peoples benefited Food & Non-Food Items during COVID-19



402

Children supported, specifically through the school manual



6000

Communications Tools are distributed



7500

Women affected by the COVID-19 and the lockdown supported by resilience programme



12300

Young people Mobilised and capacited



## Who we are?

ActionAid Senegal is part of the AA Federation and started working in Senegal in 2000, focusing in four out of the 14 regions of Senegal namely: Fatick, Tambacounda, Kedougou, and Kolda) covering five out of the 45 Departments (Foundiougne, Tambacounda, Bakel, Kedougou and Goudiry) in nine localities (Djilor, Nio-dior, Foundiougne, Diossong, Koussanar, Missirah, Bala, Kedougou and Bakel) and active in more than 160 communities. ActionAid is a global social 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 and girls, to assert their rights.

ActionAid Senegal (AAS) has been operating in Senegal since 2001. 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. In this journey ActionAid Senegal partners with CSOs and social movements to advance their social justice agenda which aims to empower communities to demand for their rights. Our HRBA work is embedded in our programming and rooted in the communities. This enables us to hold the government and private sector to account.



## 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 organizations, activists, social movements, and supporters.

We work with communities, people's organizations', 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.





## Areas of intervention

Actionaid Senegal operates in 4 regions: Tambacounda, Kedougou (Eastern zone), Fatick (Central zone) Kolda (Southern zone) because these regions are among the poorest in Senegal.

The headquarters is in Dakar and there is a regional office in Tambacounda region.

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

### Areas of intervention of ActionAid Senegal (LRP)

500.000 Annual beneficiaries

4 Regions

Dakar  
National Office

7 Departments

Fatick

Niodior - CADD  
Foundiougne - CCDF  
Djilor - APROFES  
Diossong - COCOGEP

More 180 Villages

Tambacounda

Tambacounda Office  
Koussanar - FYNW  
Missirah - APROVAG  
Bala - Am Be Koun  
Bakel - GRDR

16 Local & National Partners

Kédougou

Kédougou - KEOH

Kolda

21 Communes

Kolda (Coumbacara, Dioulacolon)  
Médina Yoro Foulah (Kéréwane, Niaming, Pata, MYF)  
ALIANZA/FODDE



## Country context

Senegal has a population over 16 million inhabitants. Senegal's 2016 macroeconomic performance was at the highest it has been over a period of 12 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 Senegal Emergent Plan (PSE), The Plan to make Senegal an emergent country.

The development plan was reviewed during the COVID-19 pandemic to incorporate the Resilience programme pandemic which aims at fighting inequality and injustice by providing assistance to poor families, equal opportunities to disabled people, as well as universal healthcare. Additionally, Senegal imports 46% of its staple foods, which increases the potential for 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 that target poor families and communities and other programme. This rate decreased significantly in 2018 as result of government efforts in ensuring social protection to poor families (family grant). the universal health cover is also impacting positively in some districts even though communities continue to face challenges to access to public services (health, education, water, transport, it's in this context of poverty, gender-based violence and injustice which are exacerbated by the neoliberalist system and harmful practices.





Through the Plan Senegal Emergent, the State of Senegal has drawn up the guidelines for harmonious development. Migrants are among the people responding the fastest to the opportunities offered by the territories but remain the most sensitive to challenges such as access to education, health, and access to formal work.

Senegal is a country with a very old and well-established migration tradition. Senegalese internal and international migration has greatly intensified and diversified in the recent years. Senegal is a traditional host country for populations of diverse origins. This immigration remains dominated by neighboring countries, notably Guinea (43%), Mali (10%), the Gambia (7%) and the Guinea-Bissau (6%)<sup>4</sup> The distribution of these international immigrants in relation to their regions of settlement in Senegal shows a high concentration in Dakar (57%). Regardless of nationality, Dakar region hosts the bulk of immigrants settled in Senegal; the other most important host regions being Ziguinchor (6.7%) and Kolda (6.1%).

International emigration is mainly characterized by supra-south flows that are essentially directed to the countries of the West African sub-region, and South-North flows oriented towards industrialized countries of Europe and North America.

The outline of activities below give us opportunities to share some interesting stories of changes at communities and national levels. These have strongly contributed to the implementation of our Country Strategic Paper Priorities (2018-2022) on 3 priorities in line with the Strategic Implementation Framework (SIF2) and the Long term Funding and Fundraising Strategy (LTFFS). The priorities will be reviewed in 2021



## Programme 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 two 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

## Organizational priorities

Strengthen our structures and systems

Strengthen staff and partners capacity and deepen accountability

Increase our solidarity with social movements including youth activist

Improve our financial sustainability through aggressive fundraising and diversification of our sources of income.

Consolidate our engagement with Alianza and Sahel delegation on migration

Strengthen our communication and campaign work at all levels



# Disaster Preparedness and Response programme in Senegal (DPRF 2020)

ActionAid Senegal benefited from the DPRF (equivalent of 20,000GBP) from the International Humanitarian team support to respond to support the COVID 19 response. Our responses are aimed at supporting vulnerable communities that faced the closure of markets, borders, movement restrictions and curfews. These actions have affected access to livelihoods for the populations in general, small producers and workers in the informal sector. The combination of exogenous factors especially measures taken by the government to limit the spread of the disease and pre-existing vulnerabilities (food insecurity, non-control of the value chain, non-proactive agricultural and market supply system have ended, poor quality and inadequate education systems, inadequate public services) create additional sources of vulnerability for women, children and their communities. In rural areas, small holder farmers and their families remain the most affected, which is a paradox since they are the basis of the entire production value chain. The education sector was also deeply affected as measures taken by the government led to immediate school closure and then reopening without any clear and strong protection and security mechanism in place.

ActionAid Senegal was also made cognisant of the difficulties communities face in accessing water while water is critical in the fight against COVID.

In this context, ActionAid Senegal with the support of its eight partners provided various support to communities in its nine LRPs over three regions.

- ★ Enhancing communities' protection: we provided protection material: masks, soap, bleach, hand washing set ...
  - ★ Contributing to building resilient livelihoods: provision of seeds and agricultural inputs for women
  - ★ Enhancing food security: provision of food items (cereals, oil, sugar, milk).
  - ★ Promoting women's Right: production of communication and sensitization materials for women in the community. Set up of women led monitoring system for community interventions.
  - ★ Protecting children's right to Education: provision of adapted materials for children. Provision of school manuals for vulnerable pupils especially in remote areas
- The DPRF project, mainly contributed to consolidating earlier interventions and put particular emphasis on school reopening and women access to water.

The closure of schools and universities had a considerable impact on the academic year. However, in spite of this, teaching has resumed for the exam classes. This decision did not come with adequate measure to protect children and teachers. It was therefore necessary to support the education system during the reopening process. The aim of the DPRF project was to contribute to enhancing the hygienic conditions of children going back to school and their communities in general.

The aims of the project are as outlined below:

- To protect children going back to school by providing hand washing sets, huge water tanks and cleaning materials
  - Reduce women unpaid care work related to water collection by strengthening water storage system in covid context and beyond
- Overall, the project supports schools with sanitary facilities to permanently comply with protection measures. Hand washing facilities was provided to schools in Kedougou, Bakel, Foundiougne and Diagane Mbarka

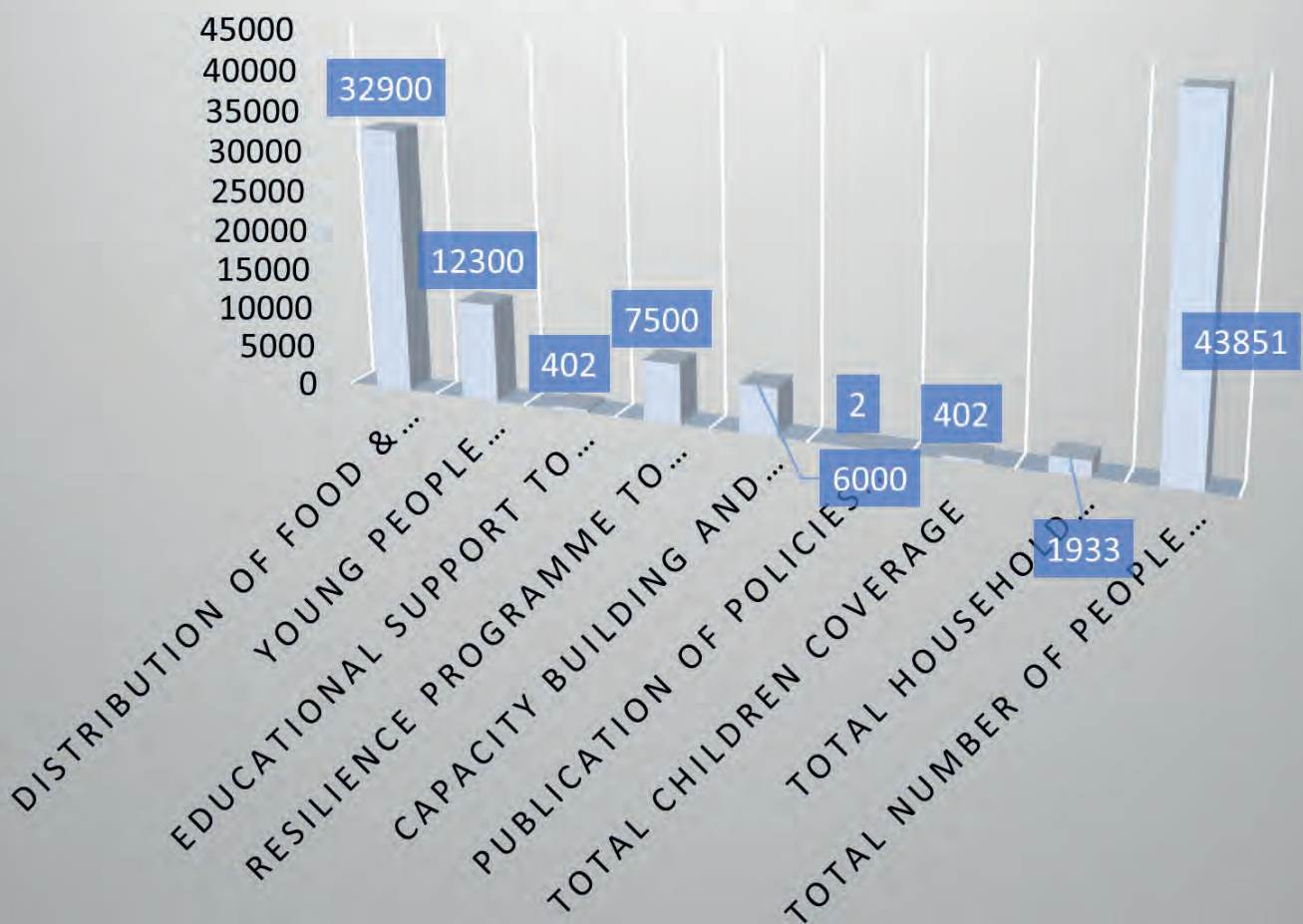
At the local level, ActionAid Senegal works with 9 LRP partners who have been working closely with the COVID-19 committee headed by the governors and prefects to respond to the situation. AAS has also connected with teacher unions in all its sensitization, information, and training activities. ActionAid collaborates with the two largest teacher unions at the national level, namely UDEN (Democratic Union of Teachers of Senegal) and SELS / A (Union of Free Teachers of Senegal / Authentic).

ActionAid Senegal is also a member of the National Platform of Civil Society Organizations for monitoring the SDGs, with ODD 4 being its target. AAS work has enabled its LRP partners and communities to give more power to the SMC (School Management Committees) and empower advantage of the CODEC (Collectives of School Directors) in the monitoring process and permanent strengthening of Teachers performance. 7 CODEC have been involved in this process: the CODEC of Diossong, Niassene, Diagane, Foundiougne, Bakel, Kedougou1, Kedougou2. In the past years, over 15 CODEC (Collectives of School Directors) have been accompanied in our 9 LRP in their monitoring and Teachers Capacity building to improve the quality of education. This support has allowed many teachers to succeed in their professional exams and increase efficiency, thus greatly enhancing the quality of education.

Our intervention helped to strengthen the resilience of women in the communities. The protective equipment that was provided was mainly intended for them. The choice of this equipment was also made with their assistance. The women even chose the types of equipment they would need to protect themselves, their children, and their families. The devices made available to them were therefore likely to secure their living environment and contacts with the outside world. This is particularly important because these measures made it possible to continue to carry out their (mainly) income-generating activities, thus reducing the economic dependence that can lead to gender-based violence.

# ActionAid Senegal COVID 19 Response Programme

## ACTIONAID SENEGAL COVID 19 RESPONSE PROGRAMME





## ActionAid Senegal and other CSO actors responded to stop the spread of the COVID-19 at national and local levels

ActionAid Senegal contribution to the fight against COVID-19 pandemic targeted 183 communities, mostly made up of vulnerable households, who benefited from 5,000 hygiene kits, agricultural input kits (seeds, organic fertilizers, technical support, etc.), education kits, workbooks for each student in exam classes, food kits as well as communication materials on barrier procedures to avoid the spread of Covid-19. The total contributions are estimated at 100 million francs CFA (20 million USD). awareness campaigns through community radios were organized in collaboration with young people and ACTIVISTA.

In the same vein Civil society in Senegal has played a pivotal role to combat COVID-19 pandemic at different levels. Even if the lockdown has restricted some of their mobility and work on the ground, CSO in Senegal have been very active in connecting directly with their local partners to reach vulnerable communities for hygiene kits (WASH), food, distributions, cash transfer, among others. In addition, CSO have been involved in the COVID-19 local and national management committees. This has enabled them to contribute to reflection and information sharing. Some online activities have included mobilization, webinar discussions on different issues like, building back better, human dignity, resilience, food, health sovereignty as well as debt cancellation.





## ActionAid Senegal engagement on debt cancellation to invest post COVID -19 and strengthen our public services

Financing our public services to make it more equitable and resilient is one of ActionAid Senegal political demands during the COVID-19 pandemic. Indeed, this health crisis has directly impacted the economy and created a crisis. It has demonstrated how Senegal's economy is fragile and needs to be strengthened. The difficulties which most of the household in rural, sub urban and urban were facing have been exacerbated by the lockdown and all the restrictions taken by the government to stop the spread of the virus. In light of this, ActionAid Senegal issued several policy documents calling for the G7 and Chinese government debt cancellation which would enable African countries, among them Senegal, to invest in Gender responsible public services and relaunch the economy which is dominated by the informal sector.

The call to action for debt cancellation is informed by different other actions such as the who care report campaign, the public and private debt monitoring, and the austerities policies imposed by FMI. This call to action is for the government of Senegal and civil society who should continue to demand debt cancellation. Because this debt cancellation would free up additional funds to invest in the quality of public health services, education, social protection, agriculture, etc. The Senegalese government must reject the harmful conditions attached to IMF/World Bank loans if they aim to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). This is because the IMF's and other private institution's loans constraints on the public sector wage bill are blocking the recruitment and decent remuneration of nurses, orderlies, teachers, and other essential front-line personnel, who have enabled Senegal to bring the pandemic under control.

21.12



**PAROLES  
D'EXPERTS**

**Zakaria SAMBAKHE**

Directeur National ActionAid







# Building Back Better: A New Social Compact post Covid-19

Senegal is one of Africa's most stable democracies, yet almost 40% of the population lives below the poverty line. The amount Senegal spends on debt payments is nearly double the amount it spends on health, despite huge shortages of essential, front line health workers. Senegal has less than 5% of the doctors and 7% of the nurses the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends for its population, and in ten years from now, when the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are due to be met, Senegal will be lacking between 40,000 to 50,000 nurses needed for its health workforce. This projected gap represents more than 14 times the number of nurses Senegal had in 2017. Senegal has dealt with cholera and Ebola outbreaks in recent years, yet WHO estimates it has less than 70% of the capacity required to prepare for and respond to Covid-19.

Senegal experiences food insecurity and recurring floods during the rainy season, and climate change is exacerbating the effects of both. The country also hosts a high number of refugees, mostly from Mauritania. Displaced women and girls are more vulnerable to exploitation and violence and are often unable to access life-saving health care.

Rural women in Senegal are facing significant disadvantages in terms of accessing basic public services and economic opportunities. Many girls miss out on school, meaning women are far less likely than men to read or write, and to own land or businesses. Child marriage affects one out of three girls, who are married by their 18th birthday. Violence against women and girls is common and widely accepted by communities across the country, including one in four women undergoing female genital mutilation despite it being illegal since 1999.



## **Progress on programmatic objectives**

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

#### **ACTIONAID SENEGAL INTERVENTION FOR ENDING FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION IN SENEGAL**

ActionAid Senegal is very actively engaging in the promotion of women and girls' rights in areas of intervention namely in Fatick, Kedougou, Kolda, Tambacounda as well as at National level. This is in line with our programme priority to Increase recognition of the impact of negative gender norms on girls and women's rights in three regions of Senegal. From that perspective, FGM is formally targeted as one of the social negative norms that affect women and girls. Following our context analysis and some conversation with religious groups we have found that the practice of FGM is condemned by Islam and Christianity. Consequently, we raise awareness of FGM as an old traditional and cultural practice which is perpetuated to reinforce gender-based violence and social inequality. From the legal perspective, FGM is also forbidden by the 1999 law in Senegal. Since 2018, GBP 141,299 has been put into community budgets for the advancement of women's rights and economic justice.

At the community level, reflection i circles are spaces for consultation and decision-making for women. ActionAid provides support in training on the various areas of development at the grassroots level with emphasis on Gender based violence (GBV) including FGM. Through reflection action circles, women are firstly empowered on the need to end FGM by making them recognize that it is a harmful practice which violates women and girls' rights while also putting them at risk. To achieve this aim, ActionAid uses positive social norms, the national legal framework, and religious norms to make women and their communities not only agree on the need to end FGM but we engage them to act on this themselves. In some communities, we have some former women practitioners who accompanied ActionAid during sensitization against FGM. ActionAid commitment has led to ActionAid Senegal being invited to join the national committee on FGM in the Social Affairs Committee of the National Assembly.

ActionAid also participated in the "After project tour" with our Champion and Parliamentary Woman to raise awareness among African communities based in Europe, particularly in Spain and Italy, about the consequences of FGM. The basis of this European Union Project in Partnership with ActionAid International Italy and ActionAid Senegal was built on observation by health professionals (gynecologists and pediatricians) that many African women migrants are cut or mutilated including more and more babies and children too. In addition to that Surveys conducted during the after project and Senegal context analysis in 2018 have shown that parents bring children back to their country of origin during the holidays for them to be cut. And this same phenomenon is seen in the border areas of Senegal with Mali, Gambia, Mauritania, and Guinea hence the interest to encourage this project for a sub-regional approach of intervention.

In Senegal, many measures have been taken to strengthen mobilization campaigns for the total abandonment of female circumcision. A law prohibiting the practice of female circumcision was passed in 1999. A new national action plan for accelerating the abandonment of female circumcision has been adopted. Drawing lessons from the evaluation of the implementation of the first plan, the actions of the Government and its partners have been refocused around several guiding principles: a holistic and multi-sector approach based on human rights, community accountability, cross-border activities, national and international advocacy, efficient monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, and improved coordination.





## Existence of progressive laws but not well enforced



In keeping with international commitments, Senegal is celebrating, on February 6, the day of action "Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation". The aim of this commemoration is to achieve the elimination of mutilation worldwide by 2030.

The Senegal government has ratified several international treaties and the country's Constitution also ensures the promotion and protection of human rights in its Preamble and Bill of Rights.

The country is formally aligned with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women (CEDAW) in 1985, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1990, the African Charter of Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in 1982, and the Maputo Protocol in 2003. In the legal framework, many efforts have been made to promote the situation of women in Senegal.

Our national engagement on FGM with other CSOs has resulted on the reinforcement of the existing legal instruments and strategies (SNEEG) as well the national strategy for child protection (SNPE).

## Policy engagement to end FGM is one of our commitments to promote women and girls' rights in Senegal

That is why, at policy level, ActionAid was a member of the organizing and scientific committee of the 1st African Summit against FGM held in Dakar where more than 17 countries attended the workshop. The summit ended with strong recommendations especially about the creation of a sub-regional network to fight against FGM.

Our communication materials also fully include FGM to support continuous awareness raising and national protective policies dissemination from national to local level. We support the production of communication tools to raise awareness about rape and women's rights (posters, picture boxes, flyers, etc.) at local level, in addition, FGMs, which are a form of violence against girls and women, are covered in an information package.

In terms of partnership, ActionAid Senegal is also part of national network of gender equality where ending FGM is on the national agenda as well as the regional cluster on GBV for central and west Africa where we are engaged to influence the regional or continental agenda against GBV including FGM. We also have strong partnership with a well-known organization named TOSTAN, which has widely acknowledged experience on fighting against FGM at community level and with women. We run a special campaign for 16 days during which a clear focus is put on ending FGM and gender-based violence. We also join girls' rights organizations to contribute to the common struggle for rights. AAS also maintains close relations with the Ministry of Women and Child Protection and UN agencies such as UN Women. It is also possible to partner with AMREF Senegal on this project.

## Nous sommes là pour vous protéger contre toutes formes de violences





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

### *Story of change 1: building a resilient education system in Koussanar*

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected most of the sectors in Senegal. the impact of the pandemic on the education sector has been the closure of schools and restrictions in some of the businesses as well as public mobility. Teachers and children were obliged to find some alternatives which have enabled them to pursue their study during the lockdown. This is because most the students did not know when the schools would reopen and when the examination would be done.

One student we met in Koussanar LRP, Fatou, spoke about her journey and the importance she attaches to her education. She said “I was born in 2007, I still live with my grandmother and my uncle». She takes great care that I have a good education so that I can succeed in life. Now I am in 5th grade. COVID 19 has greatly affected the smooth running of our classes at school. With the closure of classes our schedule has been greatly reduced....







....I was very happy to learn that the State of Senegal had decided to save this school year by resuming classes before the exams. Luckily for us too, ActionAid Senegal and its partner came to the rescue of the Senegalese government by producing booklets. I personally benefited from Language and Communication”booklets, Mathematics and Education for Science and Social Life (ESVS) booklets. I am very grateful, and happy to see the good work that ActionAid Senegal in collaboration with the teacher’s unions and its local partner are doing in our communities. We can see the positive results we gained this year because the number of girls who passed their exams has increased compared to last year. This kind of support will encourage me to continue my education and to fulfil my dream of becoming a doctor.”



## ***Story of change 2: Women in Sinthian villages are positively transforming their communities and are connected to the regional women platform***

More than two thousand people (2000+) live in Sinthian. The living conditions of women in Sinthian village of Missirah LRP were characterized by difficult access to arable land and little access to credit because of lack of agricultural inputs and harmful social norms. This situation has increased their vulnerability and causes low participation in decision-making (municipal council, village councils, village associations). It also makes it difficult to access fresh vegetables. Consequently, ActionAid carried out a participatory vulnerability assessment as well as a need assessment 2015 and again in 2018. The result of these needs assessments revealed the lack of training on women leadership, on processing of agricultural products, lack of agricultural equipment and a need for training in the cultivation of cash crops. There was also the fact that a very limited number of women had access to land and means of production in Sinthian Village.

Faced to this precarious situation in which the women of Sinthian find themselves, ActionAid Senegal undertook a series of trainings which have targeted members of reflection and actions groups.

Thus, thirty (30) women were trained on transformational leadership, on women's rights, on advocacy as well as on agriculture techniques, processing, and marketing in the first batch. It is important to highlight that most the funds come from sponsorship money (UK FA). The second group of 50 women also benefited from financial support from the Agroecology and Resilience project, the Bamtal Rewebe project and the GAFSP project implemented by ActionAid Senegal and the LRP partners. These actions had resulted in the revitalization of action reflection circles which allow women to gain confidence to discuss their problems with local authorities and community leaders. The different series of training sessions have also helped to strengthen women's leadership capacity and boost them in decision making process. In the same period, we registered 5 women counselors. They also joined the women regional platform in Tambacounda (the Bamtal rewebe). Today Sinthian women are building in those spaces and capacities to significantly transform their lives.





### ***Story of change 3: Building public relationship to increase our profile and improve state accountability at national, regional, and local level***



As part of our policy engagement and advocacy work, ActionAid Senegal has established regular conversation with Ministries, governors, deputy governors and mayors in our different LRPs. This happens at least each quarter in Fatick, Tambacounda, Kedougou, Dakar regions through regular meetings, lobby tours, official visits, etc. The reasons behind this policy engagement we conducted is to strengthen relationship between ActionAid Senegal and administrative and municipality authorities, to align with NGO law which call for collaboration and synergies in reference to the Senegal strategic program named Plan Senegal Emergent (PSE) and to be accountable to communities and partners we work with.

These meetings are an opportunity to share our achievements and communications tools in different themes. We also use these meetings to share some of the quarterly reports with them and request their support to better accomplish our work which is to support communities to fight poverty and injustice.

As a result, ActionAid Senegal is listed as one of the best NGOs in Senegal promoting human rights and social justice. We are also seen as transparent and accountable. This has enabled us to strategically influence some decisions for the benefit of communities particularly women and girls. This is illustrated through the submission of a quarterly report which informs authorities about our work in the communities and how our intervention meaningfully contributes to communities' lives and livelihoods.

As a result, authorities also recognize and appreciate the important contribution of ActionAid in improving communities' lives and women leadership as well as communities' livelihoods. AAS is working for vulnerable communities and the government acknowledges this. These types of collaboration enable us more often to have a sense of what authorities are doing on the ground and how we can improve living conditions. ActionAid Senegal received several distinctions certificates from authorities to celebrate our work in changing communities' lives in our LRPs in 2020.



# ActionAid Senegal and REMIDEV call the Senegalese government to adopt the migration policy to restore the rights of migrants and their families

As part of our contribution to the Migration delegation work ActionAid Senegal and Alianza have actively participated to the celebration of the International Day of Migrant (18th December 2020 in Amadou Malick Gaye center). This celebration was an occasion to share the study on the voice of women migrants in Senegal, also to call for the Senegalese government to fast track the adoption of National migration policy to promote migrants' rights . It was an opportunity to outline the importance of changing the narrative to focus on the development aspect of migration especially because free movement of people is recognised by international and regional treaties and conventions on one hand and on the other hand migrant remittances support many households in Senegal. Further, it was important to recognize the migrant as a great contributor to their country-of-origin economy. ActionAid Senegal, in its second policy document,...

...insisted on the fact that strengthening the rights of migrants and returnees would contribute a lot to achieve social justice and human dignity.

The same policy document reported that migration in Senegal plays an important role in the economy and society. About 75% of migrants' transfers are intended for the basic needs of the populations (daily expenditure, food, rent, education, transport, investment, etc.). According to United Nations agencies, the COVID-19 crisis has had a strong impact, a 30% drop in migrant remittances was recorded in June 2020, because the main countries that host these migrants and their families (Italy, France, Spain) were strongly affected by the pandemic due to a relatively long lockdown, which exposed migrants to unemployment. The work with WAM delegation is helping articulate our work with national network for migration and development (REMIDEV) and at regional level with countries like Mali, Gambia, Mauritania and Nigeria.

17 et 18 décembre 2020  
Centre Ahmadou Malick GAYE  
ex Centre de Bopp, Dakar, Sénégal.

## JOURNEE INTERNATIONALE DES MIGRANTS

«2006-2020 : gouvernance de la migration, migration irrégulière, mobilisation des OSC pour une migration sûre, respectueuse des droits humains. Quelles leçons tirer?»

### INTERVENANTS

Alassane THIOYE, Sociologue et coopérant  
Fatou Cissé FALL, Sociologue et membre Forum social  
Moustapha Kémal KEBE, Chargé Programmes REMIDEV  
Pr Abdoulaye NGOM, Université Assane SECK de Ziguinchor  
Bathor SECK, Spécialiste Genre et Droit des femmes, Association des Juristes Sénégalaises  
Ibrahima KANE, Chargé des relations avec l'UA et du programme Migration en Afrique à OSIWA

REMIDEV



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

### ***Story of change 1: Farmer's seed system in Koussanar to promote agroecology and women food sovereignty***

Koussanar LRP is in the Eastern region of Senegal, precisely in Tambacounda region of Tambacounda. The main activities are agriculture, livestock, trade, and small business. In these communities where agriculture is the main activity access to good quality seed is a big challenge especially for women farmers. To get more valid information on the ground, ActionAid Senegal and its partners Yakar Niani Wuli conducted participatory research on farmers seed system.

One of the conclusions was that the government through the Ministry of agriculture and extension services provided conventional seeds for farmers. Another conclusion was that those seeds were not accessed on time and the recipients of these seeds were few in number. We also observed that most of the women farmers were not benefiting from seed distributed by the government. After a deeper conversation, the recommendation was to develop with communities, partners, mayors, and the agriculture extension services a seed multiplication programme for the next 5 years. The final expected results are to improve the seed accessibility (locally produced by women with extension services technical support), availability (provide some adequate equipment for the storage) and the acceptability (quality of seed).

The other factor that helped the seed multiplication programme was the COVID-19 health crisis. During the first year of the programme the committee selected 30 women farmers, from 7 communities namely Keur Ousmane, Keur Demba, Sinthiou Sadio Aliou, Sinthiou Coumbidia, Saré Malédé and Fass Ngeunth. Each of them received the equivalent of 150 kg of peanut seeds. In total 4.5 Tonnes of peanuts seed were distributed for the first year. In addition, each woman received 200kg of organic fertilizer and bio-organic liquid and Aflasafe. The distribution of the organic fertilizer was divided into two phases, first phase 50% and the second phase also 50% to avoid any risk and to allow for the input of fertilizer. The 30 women farmers have reimbursed in Total 6 Tons of peanuts, the government gave storage facilities for all the seed. This farmer's seed system is a revolution towards food sovereignty and the promotion of agroecology. Women farmers in Koussanar LRP believe that Food sovereignty cannot be achieved without seed sovereignty. This programme is a community initiative that will directly impact 1500 women farmers and indirectly benefit 7500 individuals in the community over the next 5 years. This following case study illustrated well how this programme is transforming women farmers lives.



## ***Story of change 2: Yama Ndiaye, women farmers in Keur Ousmane among the beneficiaries***



Yama Ndiaye from Keur Ousmane community is one the recipients of the seed multiplication programme, launched by ActionAid Senegal, Federation Yakaar, Niani Wulli, the Ministry of agriculture through the extension service of Koussanar LRP. Yama is 39 years old; she is married and have 4 children of whom: 1 is a boy and 3 are girls. They are all going to school to prepare their future. Yama has also been trained on feminist leadership and management; she is the President of the reflection action women group of Keur Ousmane. Mrs. Yama Ndiaye stated that before the establishment of their women group, they were very few to participate to the decision-making process. As a result of capacity building on feminist leadership organized by ActionAid and FYNW many of them have improved their skills and can organize public discussions and participate actively to defend their rights.

They were able to also convince their husbands to join their group and play a key role for the promotion of women's rights and access to land and natural resources. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, most businesses were closed and even weekly markets were not accessible. That is why farmers were eating their seed to survive and avoid food insecurity and build their resilience capacity. Before this support, campaigns and advocacy were carried out with the authorities for women's access to land and seeds by the local partner FYNW with the support of its partner ActionAid. There has been a marked improvement in the living conditions of women. **"These seeds will allow us to be resilient and have seed capital in our locality but also to strengthen agroecological practices in our areas. In addition, each woman received 150kg of peanuts, 200kg of organic fertilizer (Fertinova), organic liquid fertilizer and afflasafte). I warmly thank FYNW and its partner ActionAid who have supported us in this time of crisis."**



### ***Story of change 3: Establishment of good relationship with the extension services to promote agroecology***

Sustainable agriculture agroecology and food sovereignty cannot be achieved without the sustainable control and the use of natural resources such as land, water, energy, seed, etc. For the seed multiplication programme, ActionAid Senegal established a collaboration with the agriculture extension services. In Kous-sanar Mr Diégane Diouf, Technical advisor in Agriculture sector accepted to give his technical support to enable women farmers improve their skills and constructure their empowerment. Mr Diouf saluted this great initiative which according to him arrived on time to fight food insecurity by facilitating access to affordable and good quality of seed. The situation faced by women during this period of COVID19 shows the urgency to support them to build their resilience capacity.

"I begin by congratulating the partners who were at the origin of this initiative. I can name the Yakaar Niani Wuli federation and its partner ActionAid in the area. Currently, we can see that seeds are a rare commodity in our area, particularly peanuts. As an agricultural technician, this initiative will give the players a breath of fresh air. This will allow actors to build seed capital that will serve them for years to come. I will try to mentor them, and this will allow me to help them achieve their goals for the current program. I have been a partner since the starting of the process, I see that my recommendations have been taken into account by the partner. I congratulate ActionAid and its partner FYNW for their commitment to the communities. I renew my commitment to support them for the success of this seed multiplication program."





## ***Story of change Bala project 4: women in the front of food system and resilience building***

Improving community food sovereignty through women farmer access to means of production is one of 3 programme priorities. The project is part of our country strategy (2018-2022) "SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS: Act Now!" And contributes to women farmers' economic empowerment. This initiative is a new form of collaboration between ActionAid Senegal and ActionAid France. It aims at building solidarity between our communities' members here in Senegal and the "groupes locaux" in France. Most of the activities carried out by women groups in Senegal are not new simply because they are built on the achievements and investments of the former joint project funded by the French Development agency named "Bamtal Rewbé". The Bamtal Rewebe project aimed to fight poverty among rural women by improving their livelihoods in Senegal. It is in that context and to keep the solidary actions and spirit between that the 2 groups decided to join their efforts to contribute to strengthen food sovereignty in Bala communities. As stated previously the project activities are carried out by Bala Women's Group. The group is made up of fifty (50) members whose main activities are trade, agriculture, and entrepreneurship. In addition, most of the members were seriously affected by the COVID-19 health crisis. Going forward this new project will contribute to improve the living conditions of women and their households. It will also contribute to reinforce their resilience capacities. through cereal production, storage and transformation for consumption and market access. After one year of implementation women were able to increase their incomes. The capital will be invested again next year to purchase baobab fruit, cereal, and sell the products to different women groups and consumers.







Ndeye Fatou Sébor, the treasurer of the women management committee, shares with us her appreciation: **"My name is Ndeye Fatou Sébor, treasurer of the management committee of the Bala cereal banks. located in the district of Goudiry and the region of Tambacounda, Bala LRP is one of the nine LPR where ActionAid Senegal started operating since 2010. Apart from household works, my other activities consist of small businesses at the village market. I also run a small restaurant to diversify my income and better support my children. The local product marketing project arrived on time because some producers use to sell their crops just after the rainy season(harvest) because of on one hand the lack of storage and on the other hand in order to take care of their family emergencies. In addition, those who want to buy stock faced difficulties in accessing basic products, namely millet, baobab fruit and groundnuts during the dry season. Consequently, to mitigate this challenge, a marketing project has been set up in collaboration with ActionAid France local groups."**

This project consists of buying local production (groundnuts, baobab fruits and millet) in large quantities and keeping it in the best conditions at the store while waiting for a more favorable period to be sold at very affordable prices. Some cereals can be processed to add value. Women were able to store millet at the starting of the season 1,500 kg of millet, 2,500 kg maize, 2,000 kg peanuts and 500 kg baobab fruit.

As a result, the project enables farmers and consumers to fight against middlemen and stabilize the prices of cereal crop ensure accessibility. It has also helped ensure availability of stock in the communities. We also support the processing units to get good quality of products to process and market. As a treasurer, I was able to ensure transparency by keeping the books and account properly. We are very confident and motivated to multiply this project and make it a big programme for women economic and political empowerment in Bala communities.

# Organisation Priorities



Strengthen staff and partners capacity and deepen accountability



Improve our financial sustainability through aggressive fundraising and diversification of our sources of income



Increase our solidarity with social movements including youth activists



Strengthen our communication and campaign work at all levels

## Organization priorities 1: Strengthen our structures and systems

### About the Country Models Review (CMR)

Senegal have embarked in the CMR as an organisational priority and change process rooted in ActionAid Federation's International Strategy, **'Action for Global Justice'** where it is acknowledged that to achieve the aspirations of our global strategy, we need to rethink our models to become more internally capable to drive external impact.

The CMR rollout process has been discussed twice by the Supreme Governance Organ of the Federation - the AAI Assembly. First 2018 in Athens, Greece where a Phase I Report that reflected the key tenets of the change process were shared, including four optional models of presence as opposed to a dominant 'one-size fits all'. The second was at the 2019 assembly in Accra, Ghana where refined models, principles of child sponsorship transition, as well as early adopters were approved. During the 2019 assembly, a motion was passed requiring ALL members and country programs to develop and implement CMR plans, as outlined in the Assembly approved CMR Phase II report over the next 2-3 years.

Through a UK Motion, the Assembly also requested that CMR progress is reported back using both financial and non-financial KPIs. For the 2020 Annual Report specific focus of reporting on the CMR as a key organisational change process is being made due to the requirement to update the 2021 Assembly about progress in all countries and NOT just early adopters. This is because CMR transition changes in one country has an effect in others, including but not restricted to Funding Affiliates and Center of Support.

In this perspective Actionaid Senegal have developed a TOR for the CMR transition plan. The reflection has integrated the phase out process, the geographic footprint, the Alianza merging process. ActionAid and Alianza are also collaborating on certain activities, such as the migration and development program, planning, and annual reporting, fundraising. The sharing of systems and structures is not yet effective and could affect the country program's long term programmatic and financial planning.



## Organization priorities 2: Improve our financial sustainability through aggressive fundraising and diversification of our sources of income.

ActionAid Senegal has elaborated three years plan for clear programme implementation. The financial projection for the 3 years plan is based on our child sponsorship links and institutional funds mobilization (new and coming donors funds). The RAF with partners is well monitored including staff costs to avoid lack of sustainability from partners' side. The CP now respect the budget allocation criteria (70% for direct programs 30% for overhead) to maintain the upward trend in national reserves and the balance of LRP reserves. As early adopters, the new links received from other countries allow for positive financial projections for both the LRPs and the national level and policy work. We have started the recruitment of the Business develop Manager with GS support. This will enable us to continue our resources mobilization efforts to improve our financial sustainability. This change aims to strengthen and improve the CP's institutional fundraising to reduce dependence on child sponsorship incomes.

In terms of fundraising, the CP has made some progress in term of institutional funding with new projects related to FGM, Education and Migration. At the same time, a surplus of 126K for 2021 and 140K for 2022 is expected from child sponsorship revenues, which will make the country financially sustainable for the next 2-3 years. The country is also awaiting feedback on a call for proposal related to gender-based violence, agriculture, governance, and education. Senegal has also been identified as an early adopter of Child sponsorship links and is receiving new links since 2020 from countries that have been phasing out child sponsorship. regarding systems, Senegal is engaged in a CS modernization program that will contribute towards improving our financial health as well as our performance. The GFS framework is being implemented to improve the country's financial management and to be in line with policies.



About financial modelling, the country program is engaged in the phase out of two LRP following the change management occurred in 2016. This reduction from nine to seven LRP was included in the self-assessment at the starting of the CMR process. The phase out started respectively in 2017 and 2018 to end in 2020 and 2021 was delayed due to the covid. This operation will help a lot rationalize our staff and running cost. The reduction of overheads cost to LRP partners led to increased budgets for activities which helped to conduct a quality phase out. the links transferred to other LRPS have helped to set up dual funded LRPs while stabilizing LRP budgets. The funds will also help to reduce the CS servicing and national level support cost. The entire process was conducted in collaboration with AA Italy (funding affiliate).

The phase out mentioned above, in addition to reducing geographic coverage while strengthening programmatic quality, is also part of the financial resilience mechanisms that ActionAid Senegal has adopted and a fundraising strategy which is aligned to our global fundraising strategies. it will be reviewed during the Mid-term review to improve its alignment to the changing context. We have established a fundraising committee to coordinate our fundraising work and develop a fundraising operational plan which will guide the country in implementing our fundraising strategies. Continuous capacity building will be carried out with an aim of improving the quality of proposals.

The CP is engaged in the MDP process and hopes to transition to an Associate in 2022 when it will set up an Advisory Board. We are also working to recruit some missing positions (governance officer, BDM, communication officer). We are open to service sharing as center of excellence with other countries as already done with AA Italy. The CP has requested for support from GS on fundraising, programme audit, MDP and the Alianza merger.



## Organization priorities 3: Increase our solidarity with social movements including youth activist

The implementation of the CSP is conducted with organizations who share our vision, mission, and values at local level. At national level we work with the Senegalese social forum, a national youth organization. We are also members of different platforms such as CRAFS (CSO coalition against land grab) GDSP (CSO coalition on agriculture policy monitoring, COSYDEP (CSO coalition on education).

We are also in partnership with deliver for Good (CSO coalition to fight violence against women and girls). ActionAid Senegal actively contributes to national debate on migration and development with different CSO member of the national network for migration and development.

The country has also set up a global platform with the support of AA Denmark and this has helped to strengthen the involvement of young people in the program while opening new fundraising opportunities



# Youth engagement in strategic reflexion and action to fight injustice in Senegal

The participation of young people in strategic reflection and governance is one of our organization priorities. Our programme is interlinked and embedded in feminist leadership. So, children's clubs, girls' clubs, Activista and global platform are part of that strategic programming. This is mainly due to the fact that, in the past, young people were not fully involved in the programme as change markers rather they served as mobilizers during some adhoc events. In that regard, a survey was conducted followed by deeper reflection with young people some relevant authorities and LRP partners to identify challenges and develop an action plan called youth engagement. Through this plan several activities were carried out by Activista Senegal and Global platform 2020.

Young people were able to exchange and collaborate with the youth council, the Tamba conscious movement to sensitize youth people in different regions.

Activista were able to train young people on campaign and advocacy technics. the training enabled young people to ponder over the different impacts of climate change in the different LRPs. They were able to mobilize other youth groups during the walk for Campaign on climate justice.

Activista members benefit from a participatory analysis tool such as stake holder analysis, power analysis, etc., they also had the opportunity to meet with migrants' returnees.

16 radio awareness programmes on protection of migrant's returnees were out carried by Activista in collaboration with IOM in Tambacounda. A press conference was also carried out to inform and popularize the climate action campaign.





## Global platform Senegal an opportunity to enhance youth activism

Activista Senegal is an active member of Global Platforms network for youth-led activism. The goal is to strengthen and amplify youth engagement through convergence and alignment of all action strategies that will put young people in positive logics of change markers who struggle for social justice and environmental protection, promotion of human rights particularly women's leadership for a sustainable and democratic world.

The Global Platform Senegal was very active in sensitizing young people to stop the spread of the covid19 in their family and communities. communication materials were developed to sensitize people on precaution measures, in addition a video was produced to call for concrete actions geared towards containing the spread of the virus. The campaign also demanded for debt cancelation geared towards generating additional resources to invest in public services and social protection.



## Social media engagement

During The COVID-19 pandemic it was very difficult to organize face to face meeting or to mobilize communities for specific activities. In that context using social media was more practical to reach people in the communities, partners, and local authorities to monitor the COVID situation at the community level.

To strengthen our visibility and share our experiences as part of our accountability, the Country Programme is reviewing its communication strategy. Our engagement on social media enables supporters and followers to have access to useful information on our work and continue supporting ActionAid Senegal programme both at the community and national level.

It is hoped that enhanced social media engagement will help to increase our visibility and boost our fundraising efforts.

ActionAid Senegal use Facebook, twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn WhatsApp (Building groups with partners) to share information, reports, stories, videos, and events. This innovative way of communication has been supported by most of our partners at national and local level. Compared to 2019 we have reported increased number of followers (2500 in 2019 and 3684 in 2020).



## Organizational Development

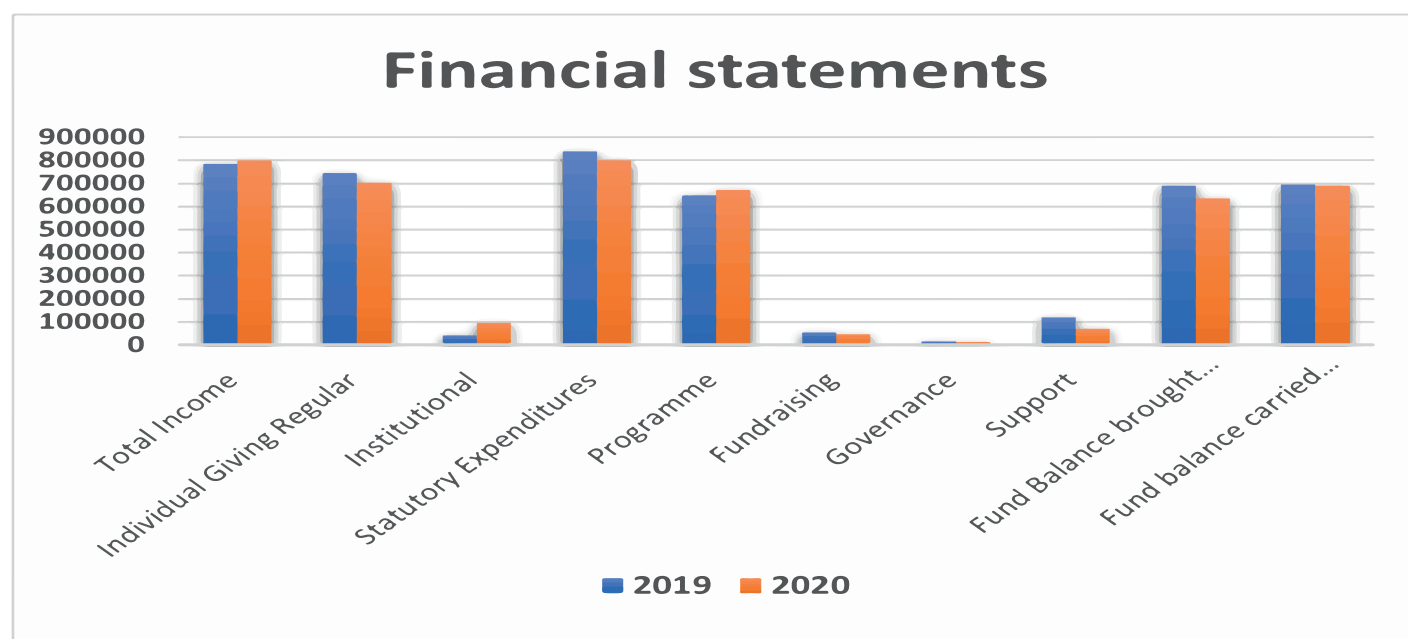
ActionAid Senegal have handled the COVID -19 pandemic well. In collaboration with the COVID-19 committee, a COVID-19 response plan has been adopted and implemented based on the guidelines developed at the international level, the Human Resources and Administration Manual. This included allowing staff to work from home. Each staff has shared a work plan which is closely monitored by Line Managers. Staff have also been allowed to take their annual leave as requested.

Online trainings have been organized to improve staff understanding of key policies such as: safeguarding policies, Human Resources, anti-fraud, and whistle blowing policy, etc. The Staff safety and security policy has been reviewed and approved by Head of Country Support and International Security Advisor

The efforts to strengthen the organization will continue into 2021 as we embark on the Membership development process and strive to achieve compliance with different policies such as: safeguarding policy (SHEA), Assurance policy, feminist leadership top 10 basics, as well as staff safety and security.



# Audited Financial statements



## Finance performance

2020 was a particularly difficult year mainly due to the covid 19 pandemic. In that regard AAS adopted its operations as per the guidelines provided by the Global Secretariat. This experience was a good learning for most of the staff. The organisation was able to maintain its financial performance despite all the changes in the context.

In addition, the objectives of an internal control system is 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 based on 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.

ActionAid Senegal observes zero tolerance towards fraud, corruption and criminal activities and is committed to combating these wherever they are found

Where cases of suspected fraud, or irregularities, are discovered in a transaction, these must be promptly reported to the senior management team. ActionAid Senegal requires that major frauds be reported to the police. Otherwise, all incidents, whatever their level of materiality must be reported at the end of the financial year in an annual statement to the internal audit department at the Global Secretariat. 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, 2020.



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