

# ActionAid Sénégal

Annual report 2016



**act:onaid**

ActionAid Sénégal  
ActionAid is a global movement of people  
working together to achieve greater human  
rights for all and defeat poverty

# act:onaid

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## Forward from Country Director

The year 2016 was a very eventful year for ActionAid Senegal and saw a number of changes across our work in the communities, at the national level and internally. In our national level influencing work, we continued to partner with other non-state actors to engage with government on budget allocations and actual spending in the agricultural sector. We have stayed committed to push for improvement in access and control of natural resources including land and other farming inputs for small holder women farmers and were very active in the land reform policy in Senegal. Our work with partners like the national farmers' movement –CNCR, The One Campaign, FAO and others saw the inclusion of aspects of the UN Voluntary Tenure guidelines being reflected in the new land policy for Senegal. In 2016, ActionAid took over the hosting of the West African regional secretariat for the International Food Security Network (IFSN) and successfully brought back the network members on track to finish the project on a strong note seeing members in Ghana, Gambia, Burkina Faso and Senegal actively influencing government policies and programmes in favour of small holder farmers. In our work on Agro-ecology, we established partnerships with the government of Senegal's metrological agency ANCAR to provide weather information directly to women small holder farmers on their mobile phones in project communities this has enabled them lead the development and management of community disaster reduction plans thereby strengthening their communities' resilience against climate and manmade disasters, Some of these women were also trained by government extension services staff as para-veterinarian to support the health of livestock in their communities there by securing the livelihoods of the community. Women in Island communities negatively impacted by

salinization due to encroachment of the sea on their farm lands were supported to implement climate resilience sustainable agriculture approaches that have seen them claim back some of their land and practice alternative modes of farming using table gardens to sustain the nutrition of their families and contribute to their livelihoods. In other projects and programming on access to land, women with support of ActionAid Senegal and par and their capacities in organising developed leading to successful engagement with local authorities to secure access to large portions of farm lands exclusively to be farmed by women. These women are also supported to continue on the value chain and are now packaging their produces for sell in urban locations. To enhance their access to markets, AAS in collaboration with local rights partners and local authorities organised a first edition of a local trade fair where women and other producers in the communities showcased their produced and sold them in large quantities. In our local rights work, the capacity of women and girls were further strengthened to resist gender based violence. With the support of the Association of Female Lawyers (AIS) community members were trained as para-legal to monitor and support victims of gender based violence. This has increased the reporting and interventions to reduce incidents of violence. There have also been engagements with local authorities (Prefects and Mayors) to strengthen the persecution of offenders. Internally AAS has restructured its systems, structures, continued to improve staff skills and is poised to bring its current Country strategy to a close and develop a new CSP in 2017. AAS now has a fit for purpose team in place and set to take its work in Senegal to greater heights. AA Senegal has continued to prioritise new resources mobilisation and in 2016 undertook several donor engagement initiatives which will be taken further in 2017. The CP has enjoyed the support of the other countries in the West African Region, the Regional and International secretariat in its change management journey. We remain deeply grateful to the child sponsorship supporters of children in Senegal and the Foundation, bilateral and multinational donors that fund our work and look forward to greater partnership with them and more donors as we move forward.

In Solidarity,  
Ifeoma Charles-Monwuba  
Country Director

## About ActionAid Sénégal

About ActionAid Sénégal : ActionAid Senegal (AAS) is a country program of the larger ActionAid International (AAI) federation. In line with ActionAid's global mandate, AAS has sought social justice, gender equality, and poverty eradication for people in Senegal. ActionAid works to strengthen the capacity and active agency of people living in poverty and exclusion, especially women, to assert their rights.

ActionAid Senegal (AAS) works in Nine Local Right Programmes locations in Central and Eastern Senegal. Programme activities included policy engagement, trainings on social protection, and efforts to ensure quality education.

In line with its current Country Strategic Paper - United Together Against Poverty, AAS' work in 2016 centred on the following strategic objectives :

- Promote sustainable agriculture and control over natural resources for people living in poverty
- Advance the political influence of people living in poverty to hold governments accountable to provide quality services on Education, Agriculture and Health issues.
- Ensure that women and girls can break the cycle of poverty and violence, build economic alternatives and claim control over their bodies

### Our Mission :

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.

### Our Vision :

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

### Our Theory of Change :

Social justice, gender equality, and poverty eradication are achieved through purposeful individual and collective action to shift unequal and unjust power, whether it is hidden, visible or invisible, from the household level to local, national and international levels. Empowerment of people living in poverty and exclusion is crucial. Active and organized people develop and drive change; which will transform power when led primarily by those who are directly affected, and by individuals committed to deepening democracy and achieving social justice.

### Our Values

- Mutual Respect : We recognize the innate worth of all people and we value diversity.
- Equity and Justice : We work to ensure equal opportunity to everyone, regardless of their race, age, gender, sexual orientation, HIV status, color, class, ethnicity, disability, location, religion, and any other identity-based qualification.
- Honesty and Transparency : We will always be accountable, at all levels to promote the effectiveness of our actions and always open and objective in our judgments when communicating with others.
- Solidarity with People Living in Poverty : We deliberately take sides with people living in poverty. Powerlessness and exclusion is a bias that we will work against throughout our fight to eradicate poverty.
- Courage of Conviction : We shall always strive to be creative and radical, bold and innovative - without fear of failure- in our pursuit to make the greatest possible impact on the causes of poverty.
- Independence : We operate independently from any religious or party-political affiliation.
- Humility : In our presentation and behavior, we shall always recognize that we are part of a wider alliance against poverty.





## Context of the Country

Sénégal is located in the Western part of Africa. It has a surface area of 196,190 km, and has a short coastline of about 700 kilometres on the Atlantic Ocean; it borders Guinea Conakry in the South, Mali in the East, and Mauritania in the North. Senegal is also intersected by the Gambia. The Senegalese population is estimated at 15.4 million inhabitants, representing an average density of 80 inhabitants per square kilometre. The annual population growth rate is 2.9%. Approximately 56% of the Senegalese population live in rural areas, 44% is below 15 years of age, and women account for roughly 51% of the total population. Women also represent about 41% of the working population.

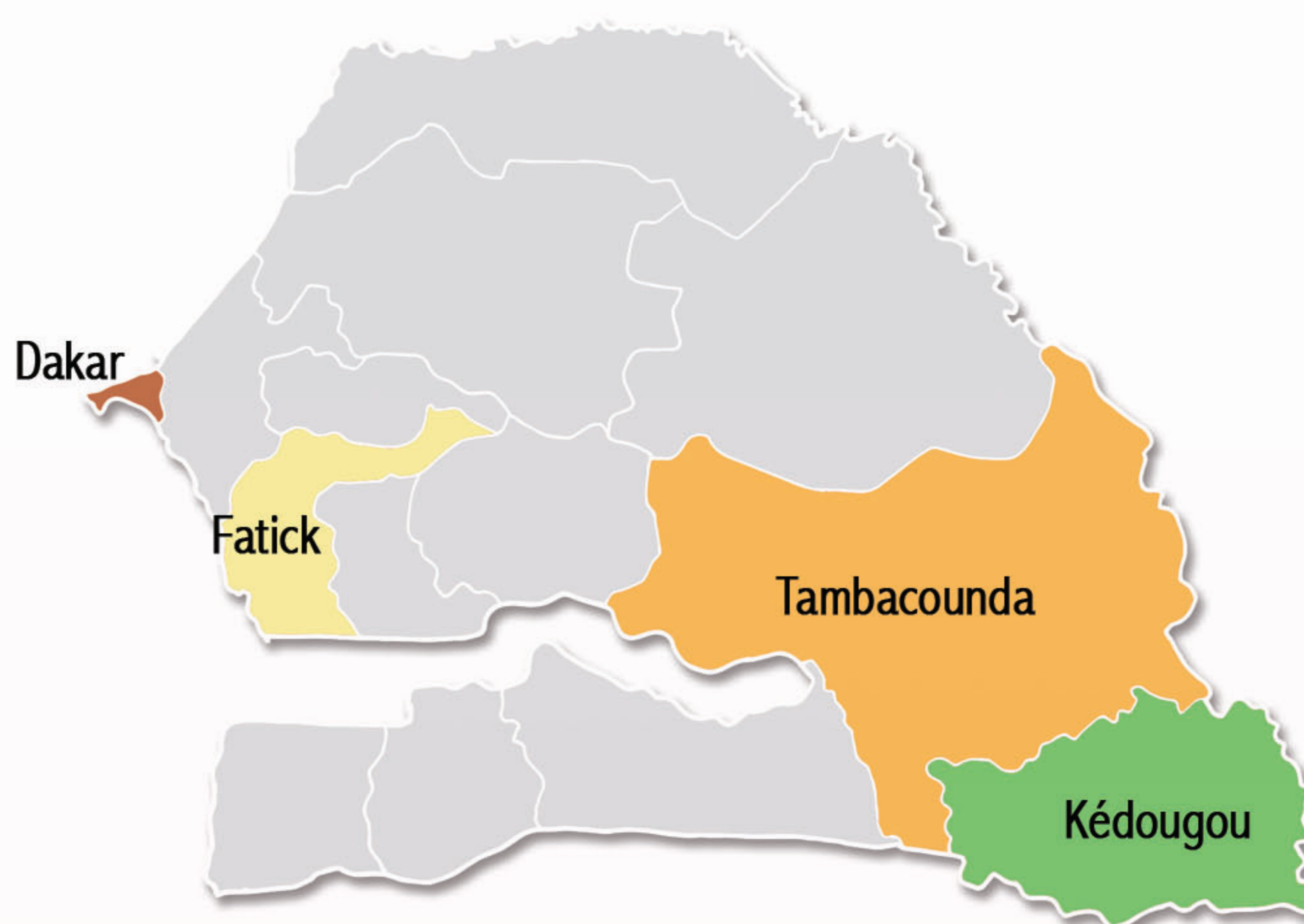
### Internal Context 2016

The year 2016 saw the commencement of a change management process in AAS has reduced the number of operational offices from three to two and about 45% reduction in number of staff. In addition, ActionAid Senegal recently undertook a rebuilding process with partners and communities, starting at the Reflection Action Circles level. We worked together to reconstitute this approach to enable us to better place communities at the heart of all our interventions. We trained all our partners again on the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) and ActionAid's general social justice approach to work. Effort has also been made to strengthen partners' financial management capacities. We are beginning to notice that partners that are closer geographically are also communicating with each other and planning more activities together to reach more targets and deepen our impact on the ground. Regular skype meetings continue to be planned to maintain this momentum.

## Our Partnership approach

By addressing the root causes of poverty and injustice, ActionAid Senegal is aware of the need to build strategic partnerships. Our partnerships include formal and non-formal collaboration with various forms of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), government structures, and the private sector. Our partnerships include working to build and strengthen social movements, coalitions, and networks. We also recruit activists and supporters to advance the cause to eradicate poverty and end injustice. Partnerships are geared towards magnifying the voice of people living in poverty, the powerless, and excluded.

Where necessary, we also work to strategically support duty-bearers to respond to the needs of people living in poverty in a sustainable manner. ActionAid Senegal plays a catalyst role to broaden the synergies of our partnerships and create a strong movement for change, capable to achieve maximum positive impact on the lives of people living in poverty. In building our partnerships, we are guided by our values and principles : humility, mutual respect and accountability. All partnerships are aligned to our mission and vision. ActionAid Senegal is committed to strengthening our partners' capacity in areas where we can transfer skills and knowledge and learn ourselves.



## Our partners in 2016 include

- In the Region of Fatick (center) :**
  - Association pour la Promotion de la Femme Sénégalaise (APROFES) in Djilor.
  - Comité de Coordination et de Gestion du Partenariat (COCOGE) in Diossong.
  - Conseil des animateurs pour le Développement de Djirnda (CADD) in Niodior.
- In the Region of Tambacounda ( Eastern ) :**
  - Fédération Yakar Niani Wully (FYNW) in Koussanar.
  - Association des Producteurs de la Vallée du Fleuve Gambie (APROVAG) in Missirah.
  - Groupe de Recherche et de Réalisation pour le Développement Rural (GRDR) in Bakel.
- In the Region of Kédougou ( Eastern ) :**
  - Kedougou Encadrement et Orientation pour le Développement Humain (KEOH).
- At the national level :**
  - Governance/Education: Coalition des Organisations en Synergie pour le Développement de l'Education Publique (COSYDEP) and Scolarisation des Filles (SCOFI).
  - Food Rights and Livelihoods: CNCR, FAO, CCPA, Ministry of Agriculture, Conseil National réformes Foncières, and CRAFS.
  - Women's Rights: Association des Juristes Sénégalaises and Comité de Lutte contre les Violences faites aux Femmes.

# Strategic Objectives Highlights





## Promote sustainable agriculture and control over natural resources for people living in poverty.

### Key Achievements :

- 1,557 farmers, both men and women, have received several trainings on water resource management and dyeing for production of local fabrics.
- Through training our 9 LRPs on climate resilient sustainable agriculture, roughly 6,600 men and women have increased their capacity to be more resilient in the face of climate change. These communities were trained on soil conservation, compost making, water harvesting using solar pumps, product processing, and access to the market. This is especially important for women, who now have their own farms before, they abandoned farming activities due to the impacts of climate change such as the degradation and salinization of soils.
- In the Bala LRP, the women in our communities, following a request for financial support from the Mayor's Office, obtained 10 million CFA from a government programme to strengthen an aquaculture project to be integrated into their vegetable garden.



photo des femmes de Foundioune en formation sur l'utilisation du Bio

### At the national level :

- Participation in the West African Social Forum inspired women to adopt the West Africa Rural Women Charter for Women's Access and Control over Land and Natural Resources. Since the forum, 1,500 women have requested support from authorities to access and secure their land.

As a result, nine Mayors have agreed to ensure access and control over land for women in their communities. These women, around 615, are now holding land titles and receiving technical support to improve their productivity.

- Senegal adopted a new Land Policy on 17 November 2016. It is very progressive and is in line with seven out of ten of the FAO Voluntary Guideline Principles on Land Governance. As a result of the policy influencing by ActionAid and Partners, the new policy now recognizes customary ownership of land, which provides security for communities' ownership of land and prevents their land from being grabbed by private companies. This new policy also discourages the privatization of land and forces companies to comply with the Voluntary Guidelines and respect women's right to land before any privatization can take place.



photo des femmes de Foundioune en formation sur l'utilisation du Bio

### My testimony

Bakel is a community located in the Eastern region of Sénégal. In partnership with the Reflection Group for Rural Development, ActionAid has trained women on how to add value to local products through processing them in different ways. The objective is to fight against poverty by improving women's income, while also improving food security at the same time. Once women have been trained, they can then train other women in their communities.

Awa Ba , 49, is the president of the Women’s Group of HLM Darndé Rewbe in Bakel: “Because of the trainings offered by ActionAid and the Reflection Group for Rural Development, women from our group are now able to process sweet potatoes into cakes, donuts, bread, jam, and ginger and tamarind into syrup and juice. Thanks to the training, the difficulty of our work has been considerably reduced. Before, we used traditional techniques of semi-transformation. This takes a lot of time and energy. We could not even cut the work down to half a day. Today, thanks to this training and new equipment, we produce more and with better quality I’m even planning to increase my own production. As a result, I sell more goods at the local market. My income has increased, and as a spouse and mother, I can now contribute more to my household expenses and spend more time with my family. Now we have three meals a day and have been able to pay for all our children’s school fees. In addition, in the women’s group, we have gained more confidence in defending our rights and now we are part of groups advocating for the improvement of public services in Bakel.”



photo des femmes de l'association

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## Advance the Political Influence of People Living in Poverty to Hold Governments and Corporations Accountable

### Key Achievements :

- Following the Reflection Action Circle trainings, communities now have access to spaces of power, such as local planning or municipality meetings.
- Bakel LRP: Through Reflection Action circles, the community was able to influence budgetary revisions on several sets of government projects, namely the granting of a budget to open a community day-care centre, improved water supply infrastructure, as well as the opening of a Radiology centre in the municipal hospital.
- Bala LRP : The president of the Reflection Action Circle was elected Deputy Mayor and other members of the circle became municipal councillors. Now they have better access to spaces of power that influence public policy.
- Foundiougne LRP: Women were able to include improved street lighting into the municipal budget so that the safety and security of the community, especially women and children would be a top priority.
- Kédougou LRP : The Disaster Risk Reduction committee had their preparedness plan funded by the local budget.
- 12 communities that ActionAid has been worked with now have 22 women elected to and holding leadership positions.



photo des femmes de Foundiougne en formation sur l'utilisation du Bio



photo des femmes de Foundiougne en formation sur l'utilisation du Bio

## My testimony

Koussanar is a district in the Eastern Region of Sénégal where including women in the development sector is essential for fighting poverty and injustice. It is a male dominated society - it's structure often fostered unequal power relations that is not in favour of women. As a response, ActionAid, in collaboration with Yaakar Niany Wulli and the Mayor of Koussanar, organized trainings on women's leadership to empower women to place themselves at the forefront of the political and economic scenes.

**Lala Sangaré, 36, is a resident of Koussanar and has participated in these trainings :**

“Before the training the community of Koussanar which is dominated by patriarchal governance, had very little number of women participating in public life. They were confined to household tasks and petty business activities. But me, I've always wanted to be a women leader but unfortunately did not have the necessary training and tools to achieve this. The women leadership training was really instructive in terms of knowledge about the concept of a good leader and how to become one. Thanks to this training, I know my rights, as a woman and as a citizen. Today, I am a councillor in the Municipality of Koussanar. I try to ensure that women's rights are taken into account in local development planning, the rights of communities to access agricultural public services, and women's participation in decision making and investment. Koussanar women are now able to share their experiences in different meetings in Tambacounda and at the National level.

Now, women's rights and voices have been recognized in my community. I owe a big thanks to ActionAid and the federation for empowering us politically.” More than 22 women across the country in ActionAid Sénégal's nine LRPs are now actively involved in governance and holding political leadership positions.



en formation sur l'utilisation de l'ordinateur  
photo des femmes de Koussanar

### Key Achievements :

- AAS conducted training on Promoting Rights to School (PRS) in Senegal 2016 to engage communities, teachers, and movements to interact with the government in order to improve the quality of education by promoting the PRS.
- The 10 charters of demand of the PRS Framework are being promoted mainly through forums, caravans, radio broadcasts involving 24 primary schools and 17 secondary schools. This has led to great awareness around the rights. Institutions and schools are participating in awareness campaigns and are eager to learn more about how to implement these rights more widely. The new country program for 2018 and beyond will include building public campaigns and training on acquisition of all the rights.
- 3,692 youth, 195 teachers, and 5,200 parents are aware of the 10 Core Education Rights, which range from the right to accessible and adequate infrastructure and the right to participate in education.



en formation sur l'utilisation de l'ordinateur  
photo des femmes de Koussanar

## Ensure that Women and Girls can break the Cycle of Poverty and Violence, Build Economic Alternatives, and Claim Control Over their Bodies



photo des femmes de Foundioune en formation sur l'utilisation du Bio

### Key Achievements :

- Violence against women and girls Watch brigades : These are set up in schools to fight all types of violence in the environment. These brigades are part of the governing bodies of schools and involve both teachers and students. They provide technical support, especially in cases of violence against women. Such violence includes forced marriage, student harassment by teachers, dropping out due to a family decision, and early pregnancies. These clubs have also enabled girls to return to schools after childbirth.
- Gender and Development committees : These are in every LRP and facilitated solely by women. Issues discussed are gender based violence and the integration of women's rights into policies at the local level. These spaces help women to develop leadership through trainings on human rights, gender issues, project management, and entrepreneurship.
- Training women in para-legal: The training of para jurists is a local response to the inadequacies of the public justice services and institutions. They work with the communities, especially with cases of violence against women, and facilitate access to courts for the victims by providing support with administrative and judicial formalities. The training of the women was conducted in partnership with the Associate of Female Lawyers of Senegal (AIS).
- Economic empowerment/capacity building : ActionAid has engaged an innovative approach of mixing empowerment with capacity building so that women can have assured sustainability with their livelihoods. This includes vocational training for young girls, pottery making, and soap making.
- Customary practices are still relevant in the LRP of Bala. It is a region with one of the highest rates of violence against women in Senegal. Patriarchal practices still remain there today and despite the efforts of the government to combat violence against women and girls, these issues are still rather taboo in rural areas. In response, ActionAid Senegal undertook a process of social transformation through training and sensitization campaigns on violence against women and girls. This concerns female genital mutilation, early marriage, rape, and all other kinds of moral or economic violence. With the reflection Action circles, women have been made aware of their rights but above all to denounce all forms of violence of which they might be victims to.
- 3,117 youth and 1,204 adults have been mobilized to challenge violence and harmful traditional practices at the LRP and national level.



photo des femmes de Foundioune en formation sur l'utilisation du Bio

## My testimony

In Foundiougne, Gender and Development clubs in the high schools are organizing trainings on violence against women and girls. There is not much security and control within the area and most members of the community are not sensitized on the issue of violence against women and girls. Girls often suffer violence in schools and women are afraid to denounce any case of violence or rape.



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Sira Mbaye, 15, is the chairperson for the Gender and Development club at the El Hadji Mamadou Diouf High School :

“Foundiougne is a touristic area and a border town with different ethnic groups mainly working in the fishery sector. The tourism sector employs mainly youth. Despite all these opportunities in Foundiougne, it is still a poor area in Senegal and girls are living in fear of different types of risk every day, such as rape, early marriage, and violent accidents. In addition, the city doesn't have good public electricity, so the girls in my community are especially vulnerable at night. In 2016, several initiatives to promote women's rights were implemented, such as trainings and community radio collaborations with ActionAid Senegal and the Foundiougne Municipality.

I was part of the trainings on preventing violence against girls in schools and recently joined the launching of the Safe Cities campaign for girls in urban cities. We celebrated 16 days of Activism in November 2016 to join our voices in defending our rights to a safe city.

Now I am a member of the school committee against violence against girls, and thanks to the trainings we received we are aware of our rights as girls and our rights to have access to education. We challenge any kind of discrimination against girls in our community. I am very happy to see that our message is very clear to my comrades - even our parents and brothers.

We have the same rights as boys. All students, school boys and girls, should be treated as equal. Our message on gender equality has been successfully delivered to the local authorities who have committed to acting now. Girls in my school know denounce privately or officially any kind of violence they suffer in school environments and know how to defend their right to equal opportunities. I'm very happy with that.”



## Financial Statement

ActionAid Senegal 2016 budget was composed by regular giving and project grants. In respect of its commitment, the country program dedicated only 30% of its national budget to management and administrative costs.

ActionAid Senegal regularly conducts an audit to ensure compliance with its commitments to communities first and then donors. This impartial exercise leads to a measurement of our compliance with the principles and procedures of the ActionAid Federation, the respect of national laws, transparency in financial management and control of internal procedures. This is part of our principles of governance and accountability. In this context the 2016 audit took place and allowed to have a financial and organizational statement. It was conducted by an independent audit organization.

### Audit report 2016

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION			
	NOTES	2016	2015
		GBP	GBP
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	1	0	13 000
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		0	13 000
<b>CURRENTS ASSETS</b>			
Receivables		91 000	251 000
Staff debtors	2	4 000	44 000
Inter entity accounts receivables	3	56 000	85 000
Other sundry receivables	4	31 000	122 000
Cash and cash equivalent	5	450 000	333 000
<b>Total Currents assets</b>		<b>541 000</b>	<b>584 000</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>541 000</b>	<b>597 000</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>541 000</b>	<b>597 000</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>			
Accumulated fund		438 000	351 000
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	6	9 000	105 000
Other liabilities	7	94 000	83 000
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>103 000</b>	<b>188 000</b>
<b>Total liabilities and Reserves</b>		<b>541 000</b>	<b>539 000</b>

STATEMENT OF INCOME OR LOSS POSITION AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016			
	NOTES	2 016	2 015
		GBP	GBP
<b>Grant</b>	8	147 000	319 000
<b>Other Income</b>	9	1 009 000	999 000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>1 165 000</b>	<b>1 318 000</b>
<b>Direct Charitable expenditure</b>	10	981 000	916 000
<b>Management and administrative costs</b>	11	408 000	249 000
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>1 389 000</b>	<b>1 165 000</b>
<b>Surplus/ (deficit) before tax</b>		<b>-233 000</b>	<b>153 000</b>
<b>Income tax expenses</b>	12	0	0
<b>Surplus/ (deficit) after tax</b>		<b>-233 000</b>	<b>153 000</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
<b>Re-measurement gain/ (loss) on defined benefit plan</b>	13	-7000	0
<b>Reclassification adjustments for gain included in the income statement</b>			
<b>Other comprehensive income/ (deficit) for the year</b>		<b>-7 000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>-240 000</b>	<b>153 000</b>







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