

Country Youth Profile



SENEGAL



Women and Youth Empowerment Division
Resilience and Social Development Department
February 2019

1. Socio-Economic Profile

1.1 The Republic of Senegal is located at the tip of West Africa, in the Sudano-Sahelian zone¹. Senegal's estimated population in 2019 is 16, 482, 905². About 39% of the population lives below the poverty line, and 75% of Senegalese households suffer from chronic poverty³. Senegal is a lower-middle-income country. The country's annual growth has been over 6% since 2015 and is expected to increase from 6.8% in 2017 to 7% in 2018⁴. Senegal is ranked 164th among 189 countries on the United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) in the 2017 Human Development Index (HDI). The 2017 ranking is two positions lower than the country's 2016 rank of 162th. The country's HDI of 0.505 is above the average for countries in the low human development group, but it is below the average of 0.537 for Sub-Saharan African countries (SSA)⁵.

1.2. An analysis of Senegal's 2013 Census result shows that the country has a youthful population. The average age was 22 years and one in two Senegalese is under 18 years of age⁶. Also, those under 15 years constitute 42% of the population⁷. The Commonwealth identifies young people aged 15-29 years as youth, and Senegal was positioned 143rd among 183 countries on the Commonwealth's 2016 Global Youth Development Index⁸. Senegal is one of the SSA countries whose youth development index scores improved by at least 10% since 2010⁹. The improvement was due to an increase in secondary school enrollment and/or literacy rates and the reduction in adolescent fertility and youth mortality rates¹⁰.

Table 1: Youth at Glance in Senegal

Categories	Females %	Males %
Age of marriage	16	18
Labour force participation (ILO 2015)	23.0	33.9
Unemployment (ILO 2017)	8.9	7.4
NEET (ILO, 2015)	42.8	28.7
Gross enrolment (UNESCO, 2017)	47.43	43.45
Literacy Rate (UNESCO, 2017)	63.5	75.58
Out of school Youth (WEF-GGGI, 2018)	76.9	73.6

2. Youth in National Development: Institutional and Policy Framework

2.1. Senegal's Ministry of Youth, Employment and Citizen Building is in charge of youth affairs, which include the National Youth Policy, the implementation of the employment strategy and civic values¹¹. The ministry's activities are carried out in three departments, the Directorate for Youth and Socio-Educational activities, the National Fund for Youth Promotion (FNPJ), and the National Agency for Youth Employment (ANEJ)¹².

2.2. The Senegal National Youth Action Plan (2012-2017) aims to develop an integrated policy, calling for the

1 Sow, F. and Wade, A. (2017), Assessment of Gender Equality in the Knowledge Society in Senegal, http://wisat.org/wp-content/uploads/NH-EN-Senegal_Final.pdf, P.3

2 World Population Review (2018), Senegal Country Profile, <http://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/senegal-population/>

3 WFP (2018), Senegal Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023), https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/5b0e7061163e4ba98d6348b150e588e2/download/?_ga=2.197061349.830420274.1543766279-478208864.1543766279, P.3

4 AfDB (2018), Senegal Country Report, <https://www.afdb.org/en/countries/west-africa/senegal/>

5 UNDP (2018), Senegal Country Note, http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/SEN.pdf, P.3

6 World Bank (2016), From Vocational Training to Employment in Senegal Encouraging Youth to be Engine of Growth, <http://blogs.worldbank.org/nasikiliza/from-vocational-training-to-employment-in-senegal-encouraging-youth-to-be-the-engine-of-growth>

7 Ibid

8 Commonwealth Secretariat (2018), Global Youth Development Index Report, <http://cmypidprod.uksouth.cloudapp.azure.com/sites/default/files/2016-10/2016%20Global%20Youth%20Development%20Index%20and%20Report.pdf>, P.

9 Ibid:55

10 Ibid:55

11 Youth Policy (2014), Senegal Country Fact Sheet, <http://www.youthpolicy.org/factsheets/country/senegal/>

12 Ibid

cooperation and coordination on education, employment, training, culture, and health¹³. The Action Plan outlines three strategic areas of work; 1) Development and mobilization of youth; 2) Employment, inclusion, and creation; and 3) Promotion of civic values¹⁴. The Plan includes the 1) National Fund for the Promotion of Youth, which supports young people's entrepreneurial Projects; 2) The Youth Promotion Program with a particular focus on health and HIV prevention; and National Civic Service, developing citizenship and volunteering¹⁵.

2.3 The National Youth Council of Senegal (CNJS) is the government's partner in the youth sector, and the coordinating platform between youth organizations, civil society organizations and development partners¹⁶. The CNJS operates through regional, county, municipal, and local youth councils and the board of district youth affiliates across the 14 regions in the country¹⁷. The CNJS's defined mission is to promote institutional strengthening and governance within its affiliates¹⁸. The CNJS's area of work includes youth capacity building and organizational strengthening; reproductive health, socio-economic inclusion; education and culture; the culture of peace; citizenship and integration and youth participation¹⁹.

2.4. The legal age of marriage for both girls and boys is 16 and 18 years respectively²⁰. As per UNICEF, 9% and 31% of Senegalese girls were married by age 15 years and 18 respectively in 2017²¹. This totals to 42, 905 girls being married by age 18 each year, of which 11, 764 are married by 15 years²². Senegal's different legislative framework and inconsistencies on the minimum age of marriage is stalling reform. For instance, Article 276 of the Family Code defines a minor as anyone below the age of 18 years, while Article 111 of the same Code allows marriage at age 16 and 18 years for girls and boys respectively²³. This has been consistently mentioned by the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its report to the GoS²⁴.

3. Education

3.1. The 2013 national population census revealed that more than 1.5 million children aged between 7 and 16 years had no formal education either in the French or Franco-Arab system, and about 47% of all school-age children are not enrolled in public schools²⁵. This means that a significant number of Senegalese youth have never been to school while another portion have not acquired the necessary, basic skills before leaving school²⁶.

3.1.2 While female gross and net enrollment rates in primary school were higher than males between 2008 and 2017, however, male students had a higher survival rate to the last grade of primary school at 57.32% against female students at 56.22% in 2016²⁷. They also had a higher transition rate from primary to secondary school at 75.28% as opposed to 71.02% for girls over the same period²⁸. There were fewer females at the secondary school level than males, as the gross enrollment rate from 2008 through 2017 for the latter, was higher²⁹. In all, more male students completed secondary, tertiary and acquired Ph.Ds. in 2017 than females³⁰. While the number of students at the baccalaureate level increased from 9000 in 2000 to 55,000 in 2016, female students are not only a minority; their success rate is also lower at the baccalaureate level. For example, their success rate was 28.9% against 34.3% for boys³¹. At the higher education level, gross male enrollment between 2008-2017 was 1.5 times higher than women. Furthermore, only 26.5% of women compared to 31.9% of men enrolled in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics³².

13 Ibid

14 Ibid

15 Ibid

16 Youth Policy 2014, op.cit

17 (CNJS), The National Youth Council of Senegal, <https://www.senegal.org/en/movements/youth-movements/details/25/2> & Ibid

18 CNJS, Ibid

19 Ibid & Youth Policy 2014, op.cit

20 Girls Not Bride (2018), Senegal Country Profile on Child Marriage, <https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/child-marriage/senegal/>

21 Ibid

22 Save the Children (2017), Child Marriage in Senegal, <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/content/dam/global/reports/advocacy/child-marriage-senegal.pdf>, P.2

23 Girls not Bride, op.cit

24 Ibid

25 World Bank 2016, op.cit

26 Ibid

27 UNESCO (2018), Senegal Country Data, <http://uis.unesco.org/en/country/SN>

28 Ibid

29 Ibid

30 WEF-GGI (2017), Senegal Country Data, <http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-report-2017/dataexplorer/#economy=SEN>

31 Sow and Wade, op.cit:17

32 Ibid:40

3.2. Skills-Based Training

3.2.1. The GoS disengaged the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) sub-sector from the Ministry of General Education and was transformed into a full-fledged ministry in 2005³³. The sub-sector providers of pre-employment TVET programs fall into two broad categories a) the formal or center-based sector includes public and registered private training institutions offering both certificate and diploma courses, and b) the traditional apprenticeship system³⁴. TVET is provided by both public (56%) and private (44%) sector institutions³⁵. The public sector comprises of Vocational Training Centers (Centres de Formation Professionnelle-CFP), Female Vocational Training Centers (Centres d'Enseignement Technique Féminin-CETFS) and Lycées Techniques (LTs)³⁶. The CFPS and CETFS were created to provide an entry-level work or self-employment for youth and women³⁷. They mostly offer programs leading to the (Certificat d' Aptitude Professionnel- CAP) or Certificate of Professional Studies (Brevet d'Etudes Professionnel -BEP) only³⁸. CEFT targets young women and its programs are limited to hairdressing, fashion, textiles, catering, crafts, health, and grassroots development³⁹.

3.2.2 About 75% of these TVET centers administer entrance exams for applicants. The LTs prepare students for the technical baccalaureate. The LTs, unlike TVET, do not recruit directly. The Ministry of Education determines the lists of students to enroll based on their junior secondary examination results⁴⁰.

3.2.3. In general, enrollment in the vocational and technical training (VTT) is low. For instance, in the 2012 -2013 school year, enrollment in the sub-sector was 48,116 or about 6%⁴¹. While there are more male learners in the public sector institutions, females account for a sizeable number of private sector students⁴². Female learners account for less than 5% of the total number of enrolled students in the VTT sub-sector and were found mainly in the so-called female trades including hairdressing, catering and sewing, dyeing, cereal processing, and animal fattening⁴³. However, as sewing, embroidery, and garment-making become lucrative, the number of male learners in these trade increases. For example, out of the 1,048 students enrolled in these occupations, 82% were men⁴⁴.

3.3 Inclusive Education

3.3.1 Senegal's commitment to education for all is based on the following , the Jomtien Declaration (1990), Salamanca Declaration on Inclusive Education (1994), Programme Décennal de l'Education et de la Formation (PDEF) 200, Terms of Reference of the sub-component, "Education Spéciale et Intégratrice (2001), Bamako Declaration 2000- on education for all by 2015⁴⁵ and the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (ICRPD). Senegal adopted a law integrating special education into the schooling system, with the aim of giving children with a disability access to mainstream education⁴⁶.

3.3.2. This commitment was followed up with a Prime Ministerial Declaration that the 800,000 persons with disabilities as of 1988 are to be mainstreamed into society⁴⁷. The commitment was also included in the Ten-Year Program for Education and Training (PDEF) and the Special and Inclusive Education (IE) sub-component⁴⁸. An array of activities such as the formation of a national coordination group, awareness campaigns targeting education groups and communities, and organized training in conjunction with UNESCO targeted at principals and selected teachers were undertaken⁴⁹. The GoS piloted 15 IE schools, and this is in addition to the schools run by development partners and NGOs⁵⁰.

33 World Bank (2014), Skills for Jobs and Competitiveness Project, <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/492121468105574834/pdf/880660PAD0P145010Box385366B000U0090.pdf>, P. 5

34 Ibid:5

35 Ibid:41

36 Ibid:5

37 Ibid:5

38 Ibid:5

39 Ibid:5

40 Ibid:6

41 Ibid:41

42 Ibid:41

43 Ibid:41

44 Ibid:42

45 ANCEFA (2003), Inclusive Education in Senegal, https://www.ancefa.org/IMG/pdf/INCLUSIVE_EDUCATION_IN_SENEGAL_-2003.pdf, P.3

46 Ibid:3

47 Ibid:3

48 Ibid:3

49 Ibid:3

50 Ibid:3

3.3.3. Sight Savers' launched an IE project in three mainstream schools in Dakar in 2014⁵¹. In support of out-of-school children (OOSC), Educate A Child (EAC) partnered with buildOn and Handicap International (HI) in 2014 to increase access to quality primary education⁵². The EAC's Remote Rural Schools construction program aims to improve the quality of and access to education for 43,056 OOSC and 117,264 children-at-risk of dropping out of school⁵³. In 2016, Humanity & Inclusion opened a school for deaf pupils in Senegal⁵⁴.

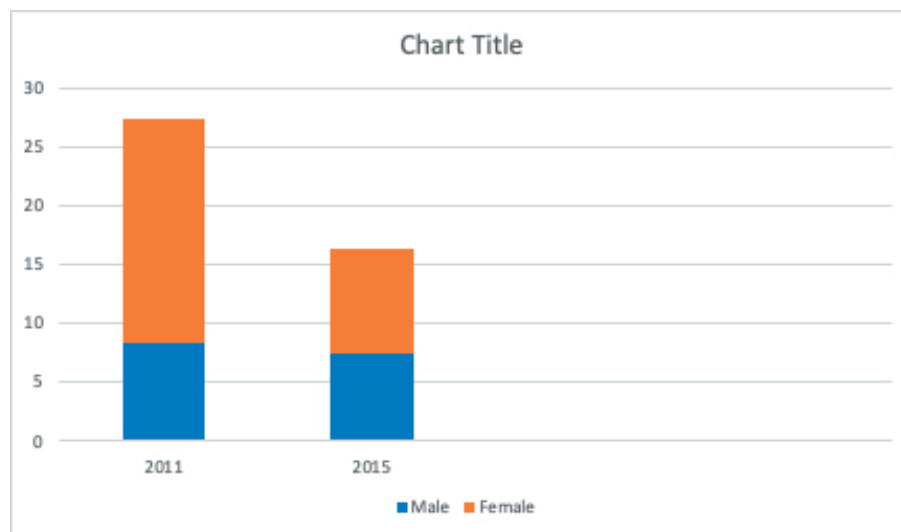
- Other initiatives include the USAID's out of school youth basic education program, vocational training and life skills program⁵⁵. The current objective is to assist an additional 50,000 youth/children on the street to attend school⁵⁶. The middle school program targets the conflict-affected Casamance region to increase school enrollment and retention in a conflict environment. These programs help children attain basic literacy and numeracy skills and reduce the number of out-of-school youth potentially drawn to violent movement⁵⁷.

4. Economic Empowerment

4.1 Employment and Unemployment

4.1. The youth unemployment rate of 8.1% in 2015 is 1.3% higher than the adult unemployment rate of 6.8%. The female youth unemployment rate was 8.9% against male 7.4%. These figures are lower than the 2011 rates of 8.3% and 19.0% for men and women respectively (see Figure 1 below). There were also more women in the out of school and not in employment, education or training category at 42.8% against 28.7% men in 2011 and 2015. The data corroborates the World Bank's 2016 figures that showed that Senegalese youth are most affected by both under-employment and unemployment and that 60% of them are active job seekers⁵⁸.

Figure 2: Trends in Youth Unemployment 2011 and 2015 in Senegal



Source: ILO, ILOSTAT, 2015

4.1.1 The GoS proclaimed 2016 as the "Year of Employment" and several initiatives with companies, and financial and technical partners were launched to operationalize the idea⁵⁹. For instance, the International Development Association (IDA) in partnership with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) (French Development Agen-

51 Sight Savers (2014), Inclusive Education in Senegal, <https://www.sightsavers.org/programmes/inclusive-education-senegal/>

52 Educate A Child (2014), Senegal Country Profile, <https://educateachild.org/our-partners-projects/country/senegal>

53 Ibid

54 Humanity and Inclusion (2016), My Chance to Tell World Leaders Not to Leave Children with Disabilities Behind, https://www.hi-us.org/my_chance_to_tell_world_leaders_not_to_leave_children_with_disabilities_behind

55 USAID (2018), Senegal: Education, <https://www.usaid.gov/senegal/education>

56 Ibid

57 Ibid

58 World Bank 2016, op.cit

59 World Bank 2016, op.cit

cy) is funding the skills for jobs and competitiveness project⁶⁰. The National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment/Agence Nationale Pour La Promotion de L'Emploi des Jeunes (ANPEJ) which was established in 2014 by Decree No. 2014-26 is the GoS's official implementing agency for youth employment in the country⁶¹. The Youth Entrepreneurship Fund is a financial mechanism set up by ANPEJ to assist young entrepreneurship access financial resources from its FCFA 30 billion funding⁶².

4.1.2. In September 2017, a new structure, the Rapid Entrepreneurship Delegation Fund (DER) was created by the GoS, became operational in April 2018⁶³. The mechanism was set up with an initial funding of FCFA 30 billion (\$ 50 million), with the objective of stimulating entrepreneurship across the country, targeting male youth up to 40 years, and women from 18 years old with no age limit⁶⁴. DER offers four main types of entrepreneurship funding:

1. Small financing: focusing on "smaller, simple economic projects";
2. Incubation funding: funding incubation, empowerment, or training programs for young entrepreneurs;
3. Equity financing: a corporate finance fund that will offer capital in exchange for equity in a young company, that is validated by external DER partners; and
4. Low-interest loans: 4-5% interest rate with a specific focus on certain clustered economic activities or certain value chains⁶⁵.

Other structures to promote youth employment in the agriculture sector include ANIDA- The National Agency for Insertion and Agriculture Development and the National Agency for Aquaculture⁶⁶.

- The Skills for Jobs Competitiveness Project launched in 2016 was to provide trained and skilled workers for the labor market. The project's focuses on three priority industries of the Emerging Senegal Plan (ESP) namely, horticulture, poultry farming, and tourism. In addition to the ten new centers built by the project, short courses lasting between four to six months to provide professional skills sought after on the labor market. These courses are aimed at young people who dropped out of school at a very early age and have no professional skills. The program also targeted young university graduates who do not have the requisite professional skills and those who are active in the informal sector and would like to validate what they have learned or change professions. The only criterion required for participation is that applicants should be proficient in French. The project is expected to provide opportunities for about 10,000 young people to acquire the skills considered essential recognized by the labor market⁶⁷.

- Senegal is among the first African countries to have used the FAO's Integrated Country Approach (ICA) to develop a National Rural Youth Employment program. The policy is tailored around the objectives of the ESP which has four pillars, i) economic stimulus for job creation; ii) investment in human capital; iii) strengthen rural youth participation in policy and decision-making in the country; and iv) streamlining the governance framework for effective action towards rural employment. The overall goal is to provide between 100,000 to 150,000 jobs per year⁶⁸. Since 2015, FAO has been working to make Senegalese agric-food systems more youth-inclusive, through the ICA by promoting decent rural employment. The FAO/ICA program has been implementing various coordinated actions in the rural areas of the country, contributing to the implementation of the National Rural Youth Employment Policy and fostering an inclusive policy dialogue process. In December 2017, a guide for integrating decent rural employment in local planning was disseminated among local authorities, to inform the implementation of the National Rural Youth Employment Policy at the local level⁶⁹.

60 Ibid

61 ANPEJ (2017), Senegalese Government Strategy to Promote Youth Employment in Rural Areas, <http://includeplatform.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/3.-Country-youth-employment-strategies-in-Africa-%E2%80%93-Senegal-Benin.pdf>,

62 Ibid

63 ICT Works (2018), DER Senegal: Innovative Government Funding for African Entrepreneurship, <https://www.ictworks.org/der-senegal-government-innovation/#.XBw0eFz7Q2w>

64 Ibid

65 Ibid

66 Ibid

67 World Bank 2016, op.cit.

68 FAO (2016), Senegal: A Rural Youth Employment Policy Champion, <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/resources/detail/en/c/416043/>

69 FAO (2018), A Successful Model to Engage Senegalese Youth in Agriculture, <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/resources/detail/en/c/1120663/>

- The Project for the Promotion of Employment of Young People and Women PAPEJF (2014-2018) aims to create 15,000 sustainable and decent jobs in rural and peri-urban areas of which 60% of them would be young people and 40% women to strengthen the technical and managerial capacities of 17,000 promoters. The program is financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the GoS for a total of FCFA 18 billion. PAPEJF plans to build 156 agricultural, poultry and aquaculture farms, rehabilitate and install 18 incubation centers for handicrafts, set up 15 multifunctional platforms integrating processing and packaging units for agricultural products and refurbish 3 agricultural vocational training centers. Finally, the project set up a line of credit of FCFA 04 billion⁷⁰.
- The Youth Insertion in Agricultural Model's (YIAM) objective is boosting enterprise creation for growth and employment for rural youth (aged 18-35 years) nationwide. Products and services include infrastructure, equipment, training and counseling services; sector: aviculture, gardening, aquaculture and livestock farming⁷¹.
- Entrepreneurship Development Project: Youth in Agriculture and Agri-Food in Senegal (PDEJAS) is a national program targeting young men and women in rural and urban areas. The project comprises the following three components: i) Development of youth entrepreneurship in agricultural and agri-food value chains; ii) Facilitating the access of young project holders to financing; and iii) Project coordination and management. The project is financed with an African Development Fund (ADF) loan of UA 814, 000 or FCFA 677, 000, 000⁷².
- Other initiatives include the Community Agricultural Domains Program, PRODAC;
- The TCP/SEN 3403-implemented in partnership with the FAO to improve the livelihood of disadvantaged youth in rural areas; and
- The GCP/RAF/254/MUL-implemented in partnership with the FAO to create decent employment opportunities in rural aquaculture⁷³.

4.2 Ecosystem and Entrepreneurship

4.2.1 CTIC Dakar is the first incubator and accelerator in Francophone West Africa for ICT and mobile technology entrepreneurs⁷⁴. CTIC was created in 2011 under the aegis of the Senegalese private sector (OPTIC, Organization of ICT Professionals) with the aim of developing the ICT sector and promote the growth of the most innovative companies⁷⁵. CTIC aroused interest from the World Bank's infoDev program and several public and private, local and international partners⁷⁶. Since CTIC's formation in 2011, other tech hubs such as Jokkolabs, Bantalalab, Africa Living Lab, Mobile Senegal, Jigguene Tech Hub have emerged⁷⁷. Jigguene, West Africa's first tech hub run by women and for women was created in 2012. The organization has trained hundreds of women and girls in coding, web design, e-marketing, public speaking, and launching startups, among others⁷⁸.

4.2.2. Some of Senegal's outstanding startups include:

- Ma Tontine- has digitalized the traditional informal rotating credit system and offers access to financial services such as micro-loans and insurance. Since its launch in July 2018, Ma Tontine has 1,052 active members, of which more than 80% are women across 5 of Senegal's 14 regions. Thus far, Ma Tontine members have saved upward of FCFA 51 million (\$90, 000)
- Lives- put forward people's culture and more specifically African cities, new ways to explore them by finding the right plan and best activities.

70 Ministry of Youth, Employment and Citizen Building (ND), Support Program for the Promotion of Youth and Women's Employment, <http://www.jeunesse.gouv.sn/content/projet-d%E2%80%99appui-la-promotion-de-l%E2%80%99emploi-des-jeunes-et-des-femmes>

71 <http://includeplatform.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/3.-Country-youth-employment-strategies-in-Africa-%E2%80%93-Senegal-Benin.pdf>

72 Avis Journaux (2017), National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment (ANPEJ) <http://www.avisjournaux.com/share?avisid=5769269220474880>

73 ANPEJ 2017, op.cit

74 CTIC (ND), Our History, http://cticdakar.com/fr_fr/en/ctic-dakar-3/history/

75 Ibid

76 Ibid

77 World Bank (2014), Tech Hubs Across Africa, http://blogs.worldbank.org/ic4d/files/Kelly_Techhubs_0.pdf

78 Mashable (2018), In Senegal's Tech Boom, Women are Front and Center, <https://mashable.com/2018/02/12/women-tech-senegal/#wHlv-iOZkHmqb>



- Loyset- solves one of Senegal's important problems, namely the loss of documents such as identity cards, passports, bank cards, and so on.
- mTick- is a simple platform that allows customers to get their tickets with or without internet and by mobile in Africa.
- MusikBi- is an application whose main objective is the promotion of the entertainment industry and the media via digital platforms.
- OnitiQ- is a French-Senegalese startup that allows off-grid African population to access solar energy and digital content.
- Townpay- enables municipalities to leverage more revenue by digitizing local tax collection and financially including merchants.
- Paps-is an urban logistics service for African-based businesses and retailers who need to collect or ship parcels across the country⁷⁹.

4.2.3 Initiatives Promoting Female Youth Entrepreneurship

- UNESCO's YouthMobile initiative was established in 2014 to encourage youth to pursue a career in mobile app development. By 2017, the initiative aims is to allow at least 25,000 young people to develop 21st century skills to enable them to fully participate in addressing the challenges of sustainable development in their communities⁸⁰. UNESCO collaborates with the JifTIC initiative in Senegal to promote and develop young women's ICT development and entrepreneurship⁸¹, Sonatel and Google sponsor the yearly Jiggen CI TIC competition⁸².
- Senegal's Ministry of Post and Telecommunications has a fund to support gender equality in ICT education in the country. As a result, a 9% increase was recorded in women studying computer science and 2% in telecommunications between 2010 and 2015. The Ministry's gender unit is engaged in a public advocacy campaign promoting women's digital entrepreneurship in the country⁸³. The ministry runs a yearly startup weekend for 100 girls. Participants pitch their ideas, and the ministry funds the best projects⁸⁴.
- Sonatel Orange, the country's largest company has put gender equality at the center of the organization's growth; in addition, supporting initiatives such as Orange Woman and Super Coders that promote women's entrepreneurship, 35% of the company's staff is female. The Director -General has signed up to the HeForShe campaign and has committed to ensuring gender parity at all levels of the company by 2020. Furthermore, Sonatel-Orange stressed its commitment to the YouthMobile partnership, by ensuring the private sector incubates mobile apps developed by Senegalese women and develop the business skills of female tech entrepreneurs to ensure sustainability and growth⁸⁵.
- Yaay.sn developed by Seynabou Thiam, the first prize winner of the 2015 Women's Digital Entrepreneurship, is a platform for mothers online. It is educational and offers everyday decision-making information on healthcare, education, careers/entrepreneurship. Yaay's aims to create an entire digital ecosystem around mothers who are seeking peace of mind and have their professional and social ambitions. The platform organizes digital events and conferences. The digital events with experts raise awareness and educate people on various health issues. The conferences enable the community to interact with experts directly. The recently covered topics include cancer, sexuality, couple psychology and societal problems linked to health⁸⁶.

79 Social Net Link (2018), 9 See <http://www.socialnetlink.org/2018/09/9-startups-du-senegal-selectionnees-pour-concourir-a-seed-stars-dakar/>

80 UNESCO (2016), Tech Needs Girls: A Dream, A Reality, http://www.unesco.org/new/en/dakar/about-this-office/single-view/news/tech_needs_girls_a_dream_a_reality/

81 Ibid

82 Ibid

83 UNESCO (2018), Empowering Young Women Entrepreneurs in Africa Through ICTs: UNESCO and Senegal Highlight Their Partnership to Advance Women in ICTs at the Commission on the Status of Women, http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/empowering_young_women_entrepreneurs_in_africa_through_icts/

84 Guardian (2016), Code Club Senegal, Where Women Lead the Way, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/26/code-club-senegal-where-women-lead-the-way>

85 Ibid

86 Yaay sn (ND) About Us, <https://www.odess.io/initiative-detail/yaay-sn-yaaymaman-en-wolof.html>



- SIGESTES app funded by Aida Mansour Lo provides an ICT solution to land management by digitizing title deeds from local authority to put an end to land scamming in Senegal. The app was developed by four young Senegalese women⁸⁷.
- The mobile application Sama Carnet funded by Ndeye Aida Gueye, facilitates medical follow up for pregnant women and their infants.

5. Youth Civic Engagement and Participation

5.1 Youth civic engagement and participation in Senegal takes place within and out of state structures. State level engagement include-

- Senegal's National Civic Service was established in 1998 by Law No. 98-25. The program aims to improve the patriotic and civic mindset of young people between ages 18-35 years. The program focuses on teaching republican and civic values, increasing the employability of young people by allowing them to have access to training in various fields, and engaging young people in the work of national development. It is a voluntary program, with no educational requirements, but most participants have either high school diplomas or university degrees. The program runs for 24 months in fields such as agriculture, security, HIV/AIDS prevention, community health, environment, local development, and literacy, among others⁸⁸.
- The National Youth Week came into being in 2016 and was launched officially in 2017⁸⁹. The program gives the official youth delegation the opportunity to affirm their allegiance to the state. The theme of the 2018 edition was "Youth Citizenship for an Emerging Senegal" aimed at promoting the development of socio-educational activities, involving young people and artists in the life of the nation by inculcating a civic, and patriotic spirit of voluntarism⁹⁰. The 2018 celebration involved Senegalese diaspora⁹¹.
- The Vacances Citoyennes was created in 2000 to provide youth with the fundamental values that give citizenship its full meaning, mainly solidarity and volunteering⁹² The goals of the summer camp are to:
 - Promote and strengthen citizenship and civic responsibility among youth through action and training;
 - Increase and support youth engagement for nation-building;
 - Strengthen national solidarity and adherence to the founding values of the nation;
 - Stimulate communication between youth and other segments of Senegalese society;
 - Promote volunteerism among youth; and
 - Create opportunities for economic integration and fight against the marginalization of youth⁹³.

5.2. Non-state level civic engagements involve participating in NGOs, students' associations, sports, cultural and religious groupings, and protest coalitions.

- Senegalese youth, organized under the auspices of UNICEF's U-Reporters social platform, came together in August 2016 to discuss the opportunities for youth participation and youth's role in the development of the country. As of September 2016, Senegal had 3, 928 U-Reporters, and the numbers are growing rapidly, and they are engaged and determined to help their communities:

1. Over 76% of young U-reporters in Senegal consider that the legal marriage for girls should be

87 Guardian 2016, op.cit

88 ICICP (2013), Overview of the National Youth Service Landscape in Sub-Saharan Africa, <http://www.icicp.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/131123-Landscape-in-National-Youth-Service-final.pdf>, P.29

89 GoS (2017), Official Launch of the National Youth Week, <http://www.jeunesse.gouv.sn/content/semaines-regionales-de-la-jeunesse-lancement-officiel-le-dimanche-26-mars-2017-%C3%A0-saint-louis>

90 Apa News (2018), Senegal Plans Youth Week Around Diaspora Participation, <http://apanews.net/en/pays/senegal/news/senegal-plans-youth-week-around-diaspora-participation>

91 Ibid

92 APS (2018), Citizen Holiday <http://www.aps.sn/actualites/societe/article/les-vacances-citoyennes-2018-sous-le-signe-de-l-engagement-citoyen-volontaire>

93 USAID (2011), Youth Assessment the Road Ahead, Volume 1 https://www.iyfnet.org/sites/default/files/YouthMap_Senegal_Vol.1_Report.pdf, 32

increased from 16 to 18 years;

2. 91% support the decision of the state against child begging on the street, as part of Koranic education; and 46% support the reform and modernization of Koranic schools as a solution;

The collated messages are brought to the attention of decision-makers and community leaders, and young people have realized that participating through U-Report has encouraged them to make their voices count and that democracy and public dialogues have deepened in Senegal⁹⁴.

6. Development Partners in the Youth Sector

- The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)
- The World Bank
- Agence Française de Développement /French Development Agency (AFD)
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Plan International
- Save the Children
- The United Nations System
- The European Union

7. Recommendations

- i. The IsDB should work with the Ministry of TVET to first increase the general enrollment rate in the sub-sector of both male and female, and second to encourage female enrollment in traditionally considered male-dominated courses that are needed in the market (by solving the skills mismatch);
- ii. The IsDB should provide technical support to the National Statistics and Demographics Agency to enable it provide updated sex and age-disaggregated data across all sectors for all reports and surveys.
- iii. The Bank should provide the GoS with technical assistance to develop a national youth policy with an action plan and indicators;
- iv. The IsDB should provide technical support to assist the GoS to implement SDG target 8b (develop and operationalize a national strategy for youth employment, as a distinct strategy or as part of a national employment strategy);
- v. The IsDB should assist the GoS in mainstreaming youth development across all relevant sectors of the society (especially employment, health, education, leisure, climate change etc); and,
- vi. IsDB should work with the GoS to support solutions to end the high female dropout rates in primary and secondary schools and increase retention rates across the sector by tackling ley barriers and the role of social norms and institution in this dropout. .

⁹⁴ UNICEF (2018), Our Voice Counts. Senegalese Youth Gather to be Heard <http://unicefstories.org/2016/09/16/our-voice-counts-senegalese-youth-gather-to-b-beard/>

References

- African Development Bank (AfDB) (2018), Senegal Country Report, <https://www.afdb.org/en/countries/west-africa/senegal/>
- ANCEFA (2003), Inclusive Education in Senegal, https://www.ancefa.org/IMG/pdf/INCLUSIVE_EDUCATION_IN_SENEGAL-2003.pdf
- ANPEJ (2017), Senegalese Government Strategy to Promote Youth Employment in Rural Areas, <http://include-platform.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/3.-Country-youth-employment-strategies-in-Africa-%E2%80%93-Senegal-Benin.pdf>
- APA News (2018), Senegal Plans Youth Week Around Diaspora Participation, <http://apanews.net/en/pays/senegal/news/senegal-plans-youth-week-around-diaspora-participation>
- APS(2018),CitizenHoliday<http://www.aps.sn/actualites/societe/article/les-vacances-citoyennes-2018-sous-le-signe-de-l-engagement-citoyen-volontaire>
- Avis Journaux (2017), National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment (ANPEJ) <http://www.avisjournaux.com/share?avisid=5769269220474880>
- (CNJS), The National Youth Council of Senegal, <https://www.senegal.org/en/movements/youth-movements/details/25/2>
- CTIC (ND), Our History, http://cticdakar.com/fr_fr/en/ctic-dakar-3/history/
- Commonwealth Secretariat (2018), Global Youth Development Index Report, <http://cmydiproduct.uksouth.cloudapp.azure.com/sites/default/files/2016-10/2016%20Global%20Youth%20Development%20Index%20and%20Report.pdf>
- Educate A Child (2014), Senegal Country Profile, <https://educateachild.org/our-partners-projects/country/senegal>
- FAO (2018), A Successful Model to Engage Senegalese Youth in Agriculture, <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/resources/detail/en/c/1120663/>
- (2016), Senegal: A Rural Youth Employment Policy Champion, <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/resources/detail/en/c/416043/>
- Girls Not Bride (2018), Senegal Country Profile on Child Marriage, <https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/child-marriage/senegal/>
- GoS (2017), Official Launch of the National Youth Week, <http://www.jeunesse.gouv.sn/content/semaines-regionales-de-la-jeunesse-lancement-officiel-le-dimanche-26-mars-2017-%C3%A0-saint-louis>
- The Guardian (2016), Code Club Senegal, Where Women Lead the Way, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/26/code-club-senegal-where-women-lead-the-way>
- Humanity and Inclusion (2016), My Chance to Tell World Leaders Not to Leave Children with Disabilities Behind, https://www.hi-us.org/my_chance_to_tell_world_leaders_not_to_leave_children_with_disabilities_behind
- ICICP (2013), Overview of the National Youth Service Landscape in Sub-Saharan Africa, <http://www.icicp.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/131123-Landscape-in-National-Youth-Service-final.pdf>
- ICT Works (2018), DER Senegal: Innovative Government Funding for African Entrepreneurship, <https://www.ictworks.org/der-senegal-government-innovation/#.XBw0eFz7Q2w>

ILO (2019), Senegal Country Data, https://www.ilo.org/ilostat/faces/oracle/webcenter/portalapp/pagehierarchy/Page21.jspx?_adf.ctrl-state=l5ngzb61p_4&_afriLoop=2026592543

Mashable (2018), In Senegal's Tech Boom, Women are Front and Center, <https://mashable.com/2018/02/12/women-tech-senegal/#wHlviOZkHmqb>

Ministry of Youth, Employment and Citizen Building (ND), Support Program for the Promotion of Youth and Women's Employment, <http://www.jeunesse.gouv.sn/content/projet-d%E2%80%99appui-la-promotion-de-l%E2%80%99emploi-des-jeunes-et-des-femmes>

<http://includeplatform.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/3.-Country-youth-employment-strategies-in-Africa-%E2%80%93-Senegal-Benin.pdf>

Save the Children (2017), Child Marriage in Senegal, <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/content/dam/global/reports/advocacy/child-marriage-senegal.pdf>

Sight Savers (2014), Inclusive Education in Senegal, <https://www.sightsavers.org/programmes/inclusive-education-senegal/>

Social Net Link (2018), 9 Startups du Sénégal sélectionnées pour concourir à Seedstars Dakar, <http://www.socialnetlink.org/2018/09/9-startups-du-senegal-selectionnees-pour-concourir-a-seedstars-dakar/>

Sow, F. and Wade, A. (2017), Assessment of Gender Equality in the Knowledge Society in Senegal, <http://wisat.org/wp-content/uploads/NH-EN-Senegal-Final.pdf>

World Food Program (2018), Senegal Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023), https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/5b0e7061163e4ba98d6348b150e588e2/download/?_ga=2.197061349.830420274.1543766279-478208864.1543766279

UNDP (2018), Senegal Country Note, http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/SEN.pdf

UNESCO (2019), Senegal Country Data, <http://uis.unesco.org/en/country/SN>

----- (2018), Empowering Young Women Entrepreneurs in Africa Through ICTs: UNESCO and Senegal Highlight Their Partnership to Advance Women in ICTs at the Commission on the Status of Women, http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/empowering_young_women_entrepreneurs_in_africa_through_icts/

----- (2016), Tech Needs Girls: A Dream, A Reality, http://www.unesco.org/new/en/dakar/about-this-office/single-view/news/tech_needs_girls_a_dream_a_reality/

UNICEF (2018), Our Voice Counts. Senegalese Youth Gather to be Heard <http://unicefstories.org/2016/09/16/our-voice-counts-senegalese-youth-gather-to-b-heard/>

USAID (2018), Senegal: Education, <https://www.usaid.gov/senegal/education>

----- (2011), Youth Assessment the Road Ahead, Volume 1 https://www.iyfn.net/sites/default/files/YouthMap_Senegal_Vol.1_Report.pdf

WEF-GGGI (2018), Senegal Country Data, <http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-report-2018/data-explorer/#economy=SEN>

World Bank (2016), From Vocational Training to Employment in Senegal Encouraging Youth to be Engine of Growth, <http://blogs.worldbank.org/nasikiliza/from-vocational-training-to-employment-in-senegal-encouraging-youth-to-be-the-engine-of-growth>

----- (2014a), Skills for Jobs and Competitiveness Project, <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/>

[en/492121468105574834/pdf/880660PAD0P145010Box385366B000U0090.pdf](https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/document/492121468105574834/pdf/880660PAD0P145010Box385366B000U0090.pdf),

----- (2014b), Tech Hubs Across Africa, http://blogs.worldbank.org/ic4d/files/Kelly_Techhubs_0.pdf

World Policy (2015), Changing Senegal Through Rap: Y'en Marre, <https://worldpolicy.org/2016/03/10/changing-senegal-through-rap-yen-a-marre-2/>

World Population Review (2018), Senegal Country Profile, <http://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/senegal-population/>

Yaay sn (ND) About Us, <https://www.odess.io/initiative-detail/yaay-sn-yaaymaman-en-wolof.html>


Youth Policy (2014), Senegal Country Fact Sheet, <http://www.youthpolicy.org/factsheets/country/senegal/>



ISDB



Islamic Development Bank - 8111 King Khalid St., Al Nuzlah Al Yamaniyah Dist.
Unit No. 1, Jeddah 22332-2444 - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

 +966 12 636 1400

 WYE@isdb.org

 www.isdb.org