

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Senegal reported its first confirmed COVID-19 case on March 2. As of June 22, there were 5970 cases, 3953 fully recovered and 86 deceased persons with a significant increase in cases in the last weeks. 51 out of 79 health districts are now affected but with the highest concentration of cases in the regions of Dakar, Thiès, Diourbel and Sédhiou. The Senegalese government is leading the response and prevention work with support of key partners including UNICEF. Many preventive measures are in place including a state of national emergency, school closure, night curfew and closed borders. In mid-June the government lifted a few restrictions, such as the ban on inter-regional travel and the re-opening of some public spaces. Schools are expected to partially reopen on 25 June, starting with examination classes.

Recently, the government shifted its treatment strategy of persons having tested positive to COVID-19. From treating all positive cases in hospitals, those with no or only light symptoms are now treated in other centres (mainly hotels).



those with no or only light symptoms are now treated in other centres (mainly hotels). UNICEF provides technical support to the Ministry of Health in this process.

A large delivery of personal protective equipment, thermometers, oxygen concentrators and hygiene items that

recently arrived in the country by UNICEF is now being distributed to the regions most in need. We continue working closely with the Ministry of Education to prepare schools for the re-opening of exam classes (planned for 25 June) by providing for example hygiene supplies and handwashing stands.

We also continue supporting the return to families for the 'talibés' children in the daaras (coranic schools) within the coordinated initiative "Zero street children in the context of COVID-19". UNICEF contributed with food support to children in the daaras, continued to find alternative care to children without parental care and to provide psychosocial care to all vulnerable children.

UNICEF's COVID-19 response

Coordination

UNICEF continues to play an important role in support to the national coordination of the COVID-19 response, mainly the Health Urgency Centre des Opérations d'urgences sanitaires (COUS). Out of the eight commissions, UNICEF is leading the one on Risk Communication and Community Engagement. Together with WHO, UNICEF co-leads three commissions (Coordination, IPC, and Surveillance) and another one with WFP in

Logistics. UNICEF also coordinates the group of partners in child protection.



Handover of hygiene and vaccination equipment in Kolda

Situation in Numbers



5970 COVID-19 confirmed cases
86 deaths



3,500,000 Children affected by COVID-19 school closures

Health

Regarding the management of cases, our focus is to ensure the functionality of the treatment centers for children and to strengthen the capacity of health staff to manage covid-19 cases, while ensuring prevention and protection of medical staff.

- UNICEF supports the Ministry of Health in developing the protocol for the case management of COVID-19 in household settings. We also support them in developing a plan for enhanced community engagement, involving for example community female leaders.
- UNICEF continues to work with the regional health authorities in Kolda to develop plans to ensure the continuity of routine care such as immunization.
- UNICEF provided WASH and medical equipment to regional health authorities in Kolda and Sédhiou to enable health staff to better prevent and respond to COVID-19.



Handover of medical and personal protection equipment to the governor of Sédhiou

WASH

In this key area of work, UNICEF has supported handwashing campaigns and disinfection actions in health centres, public places, communities and schools. Thanks to support from UNICEF to the 14 regional hygiene functions in Senegal, the following has been achieved:

- 28 hygiene officers (86 in total from the beginning of the response) have been trained in infection prevention and prevention (IPC).
- 327 community health workers were trained in good hygiene practices and other preventive measures, making it 1325 in total trained.
- 766 hand-washing stations (1,923 in total) were installed in health centers, isolation centers (for infected people and their family members) and other public places.
- 785 hygiene kits (6,802 in total) were distributed to households with infected people or contact cases.

- 856 houses of infected people were disinfected as well as 467 treatment centers, isolation centers, markets and other public places.
- 2,233 schools and daaras were disinfected.
- 47,678 people were informed on good hygiene practices, making the total number 498,036 people informed.

Risk communication and community engagement

Information on preventive and public health measures was shared through the mass media, youth, women's and leaders' influence groups. As the pandemic progresses, communication interventions are adapting to community attitudes in order to best meet their expectations.

- 5,000 home visits were carried out in Kolda and Vélingara regions on aspects of stigmatization, child protection and pre-natal visits for pregnant women by grassroots community organizations with support from UNICEF.
- A partnership has been established with four leading sports and cultural associations in Kolda and Vélingara. Through the initiative "My neighborhood zero Covid-19", 40 young people are targeting 25,000 peers with messages on respecting preventive measures and disseminating good information.
- 40 religious leaders (20 Christian and 20 Muslim) in Kolda and Vélingara regions are carrying out local communication activities to fight false information and misconceptions around the COVID-19 with support from USAID Neema and UNICEF.
- 3,000 people have been informed of the need to respect hygiene practices through interpersonal communication actions carried out by and members of the Kolda girls' club and market managers to monitor the systems installed in marketplaces.
- Two well-known artists in Kolda have been engaged with UNICEF support; a rap artist for the production of a promotional clip on preventive measures and a traditional singer for the production of a single as an anthem against COVID-19. These pieces will be broadcasted on four community radio stations and the regional station of the national channel.

Education

We mainly support the continuation of learning for the 3,5 million students affected by school closure, and support preparations for school reopening, including upgrading of WASH facilities. About 6,000 public primary schools still lack adequate handwashing facilities.

- Hygiene kits, including handwashing stands, and thermometers were procured and are being distributed to 1,486 public primary and secondary schools as well as all teacher training



institutions with UNICEF support. This is in preparation for the partial reopening of schools planned for June 25.

Handover of hygiene supplies to the Minister of Education by the UNICEF representative

- Safe school protocols were developed with health and education authorities in preparation for school reopening with support from UNICEF.
- The national distance learning initiative “Learn from Home” was launched by the government with support from UNICEF. It is provided through national TV and the dedicated channel “Canal Education”. A digital platform and app have also been established to facilitate access to lessons, learning materials and other resources online.
- A radio-based learning programme is about to be aired, in partnership with the Government and with UNICEF’s support. The purpose is to extend learning opportunities to children without access to internet, digital devices and TV. The programme will be broadcasted in partnership with national radio channels and a network of 120 community radios operating nationwide.

Child protection

Our main priority is to support psychosocial support to children affected and children in increased risks of deprivation, violence and abuse.

- In the context of the Ministry-led initiative "Zero street children in the context of COVID-19",



Handover of food items to vulnerable children in Sédhiou

UNICEF has contributed with food support to 1,000 children in the daaras (coranic schools).

- In Sédhiou region, with support from UNICEF, 200 talibé children confined in villages having registered positive COVID-19 cases received food support for their quarantine time before returning to their families.
- The impact of COVID-19 on birth registration has been explored through RapidPro in the 40 civil registry centers in Kolda region. The Civil Status Agents have observed a reduction in the inflow of users in their centers. Births are however more often declared compared to other civil status procedures, such as marriages and deaths.
- To support the continuity of birth registration, UNICEF supported the distribution of kits of clothes and hygiene items for newborns to mothers at the health center. In this way, 340 women received support in the registration of their child at the civil registration center in Sédhiou region.



Young woman coming to the civil registration center to get her child registered



Handout of kits with clothes and hygiene articles for newborns in a health center in Sédhiou region to support birth registration

- Within its initiative on community dialogue about the abandonment of FGM, Grand Mother Project

raised the awareness about Covid-19. They reached 3,500 people, in addition to a larger radio audience, all with support from UNICEF.

- 1,689 children (182 girls and 1,507 boys) without parental or family care were provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements by decentralized child protection services.

Social protection

The economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis will push already vulnerable families into an even more precarious situation of poverty. Through specific targeting of affected households, we hope to ensure that social protection interventions will reach the most vulnerable population groups. UNICEF continues to advocate for the expansion of these social protection measures including cash transfers.

Adaptations to ongoing UNICEF programmes

UNICEF along with the other UN agencies in the country has carried out a review of the joint Senegal UN annual work plan (UNDAF). This review enabled prioritizing and adapting interventions contributing to the COVID-19 situation and response.

An important pillar of UNICEF's response is to ensure the continuity of vital health services for women and children, in particular maternal and infant care, immunization and nutrition services. With the current school closure, most of our education interventions are now focussing on providing alternative learning opportunities and WASH interventions for the partial reopening of the schools on June 2. In child protection, efforts prioritize violence prevention and response, as well as strengthening alternative care of affected children.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF Senegal is one of the main partners supporting the government in its COVID-19 response, together with WHO and other international organizations. We have ongoing dialogue with key bilateral partners, national committees, foundations and companies. We have received valuable contributions from the governments of the US (USAID), Japan, Canada and the UK as well as from the Global Partnership for Education and the UNICEF US Fund. We want to express our gratitude to all private and public partners who have expressed an interest in working with UNICEF to strengthen our work for the children in Senegal in these challenging times.

New partnerships with several civil society organizations are currently being developed in key areas of the COVID-19 response. UNICEF also works in close collaboration with the other main UN agencies and development partners in the country. This is mainly done through the interagency and sectoral coordination groups in place already before the crisis.

External Media

UNICEF Senegal delivered medical and hygiene equipment to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of National Education in support of the national response plan to COVID-19 and messages on the prevention and promotion of barrier gesture which generated a lot of traffic on UNICEF social networks and significant media coverage.

UNICEF Representative Silvia Danailov participated in several ceremonies organized in Dakar and Rufisque (Dakar suburb) to recall for mobilization of all: "state, local authorities, communities, parents, teachers, technical partners to pay attention for the reopening of schools in compliance with the protocols put in place with the health authorities, and ensure each child has the opportunity to continue learning in an environment guaranteeing their protection, well-being, and full development ". These ceremonies were covered by national television and the local press.

<https://youtu.be/Cqh9bUIDvMA>

<https://youtu.be/Aj55m-fu1tw>

UNICEF Senegal worked with Supply Division on a film on oxygen therapy thanks to the SPRINT project. Oxygen concentrators which save children's lives and support the response to COVID-19 were given to the Ministry of Health and Social Action.

<https://web.facebook.com/unicefsenegal/posts/2827116150743883>

Words of thanks

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

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Summary of Programme Results	UNICEF and IPs Response	
	Sector	2020 target
Risk Communication and Community Engagement		
Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services.	1,200,000	604,468
Number of people engaged on COVID-19 through RCCE actions.	5,000	5,000
WASH & IPC		
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services.	400,000	498 036
Number of healthcare facilities staff and community health workers provided with Personal Protective Equipment	5400	0
Number of health facilities and services provided with critical WASH items	500	411
Nutrition		
Number of children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM).	28,320	9,816
Education		
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning	1,000,000	N/A
Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control).	500	1,486
Child Protection and GBV		
Number of children without parental or family care provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements.	30,000	1,689
Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support.	200,000	415
Number of UNICEF personnel & partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation & referrals for survivors, including for PSEA.	150	N/A
Social Protection		
Number of households receiving multi-sector cash grant for basic needs.	1,000,000	N/A

Annex B Funding Status, USD

Sector	Funding required	Funds available	Funding gap	Gap %
C4D / RCCE	2,500,000	350,000	2,150,000	86
WASH & IPC	4,000,000	4,914,476	3,515,524	41
Nutrition and health	4,430,000			
Child Protection	2,200,000	922,808	1,277,192	58
Education	3,000,000	1,086,791	1,913,209	64
Social protection	1,100,000	120,000	980,000	89
Social science research	300,000	30,000	270,000	90
Coordination, technical support and operational costs	450,000	0	450,000	100
Total	17,980,000	7,424,075	10,555,925	58

