



Senegal

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For further information on voluntary return and reintegration, please visit the information portal www.ReturningfromGermany.de, or contact your local return and reintegration office.

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1 Health Care

General information on health care

Senegal's Ministry of Health and Social Action (MSAS) is divided into two main sub-sectors: (i) health and (ii) social action. These sub-sectors are supported by various stakeholders, including other ministries, local authorities, institutions, specialized agencies and technical and financial partners. Senegal's healthcare system is based on a pyramidal organization aligned with the country's administrative division. It comprises three levels:

- The central level: This level comprises the Minister's Office, the General Secretariat, the General Directorates, the national agencies, and the level 3 Public Health Establishments (EPS).
- Intermediate strategic level: This level includes the Medical Regions, the Regional Hygiene Brigades (BRH), the Regional Social Action Services (SRAS) and the level 2 Public Health Establishments (EPS).
- Peripheral operational level: These are Health Districts, Hygiene Sub-Brigades, Departmental Social Action Services, Social Promotion and Reinsertion Centers (CPRS), and level 1 PHEs. In 2024, Senegal adopted new strategic plans aligned with the Senegal 2050 National Transformation Agenda. These plans aim to improve maternal, child, adolescent and youth health through four axes:
- Improved equity and quality of services to achieve universal health coverage.
- Greater promotion of preventive services to reduce maternal and infant mortality.

- Improved adolescent and youth health.
- Improved governance with effective coordination at all levels

The national network currently comprises a combination of public and private structures: Public structures: 1478 health posts, 99 health centers, and 36 EPS, 42% of which are concentrated in the Dakar region. Private structures: 2,732 establishments, including 3 hospitals, 37 health centers, 359 medical practices and 1,250 pharmaceutical structures. These efforts testify to an ongoing drive to improve the accessibility and quality of healthcare across the country.

Availability of medical facilities and doctors

Regarding personnel, the health sector is 17,00 permanent employees strong, of whom, 1,592 specialist physicians, 620 general practitioners and 1,200 pharmacists. In addition, there will be more than 30,000 Community Health Workers (CHWs) trained to provide a package of preventive, curative and promotional services at community level, notably in health huts and other outreach sites. In 2024, health coverage ratios reveal a notable disparity: there is one midwife for every 1,300 women of reproductive age (FAR), one nurse for every 2,500 inhabitants, and one doctor for every 9,500 inhabitants. However, these figures mask major inequalities between the 14 regions, with a high concentration of staff in Dakar. A recent study on human resources in health indicates a disproportionate

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concentration of specialists in Dakar. For example, 520 midwives are based in Dakar, whereas the norm is 321, resulting in a significant surplus. Conversely, many regions suffer from a lack of specialists in key disciplines such as nephrology, oncology or neurology. Over 80% of Établissements Publics de Santé (EPS) do not have these specialties, limiting access to quality care in many localities. The analysis of the situation of health facilities specializing in emergency care revealed that:

- only 76% of Public Health Facilities (28 out of 37) have an emergency reception service (SAU)
- of the 28 existing SAU, none meet maximalist standards;
- 7% of SAU meet the minimalist standards;
- 61% of health centers do not have an Emergency Reception Unit (UAU);
- only 39% of health centers have UAU's up to standards;
- 67% of operating theaters (16 out of 24) set up in health centers are not operational (of which 59% because of a lack of equipment and human resources) based on the assessment done by the SONU in 2016.

The drugs and other health supplies procurement chain is made up of stakeholders who interact from the supplier to the end-user. The Pharmacy and Medicines Directorate (DPM) and the National Medicines Control Laboratory (LNCM) are respectively responsible for the regulatory and control mechanisms. This chain is structured into two channels: i) a public channel in which the National Procurement Pharmacy (PNA) mainly provides supplies to the various public health facilities; ii) a private

channel with the private wholesale distributors who supply street pharmacies. The PNA, based on an authorized list, also supplies the wholesale distributors, partners, NGOs, and faith-based entities.

Admission to medical facilities

The Senegalese health system is designed on a three-level pyramid-shaped structure to meet the general population's demand for care. At the base of the structure is the health district where we find the health posts and health centers. At this level, primary healthcare (PHC) is provided, which is an important source for grassroots communities to access service delivery. In the middle of the pyramid, one finds the medical region and regional hospitals, these hospitals are level 2 hospitals. At the tip of the pyramid, there are the central level ministerial services and the university hospital centers which are level 3 entities. This organization is based on the principle of referral and counter-referral. Depending on a patient's health insurance provisions, there may be need to present some documents to get treatment; but in principle, according to his means, the patient can choose any health facility of his choice.

Availability and costs of medication

Senegal has established a national list of essential drugs and supplies tapping from the Bamako initiative which provides for a certain level of cost recovery (setting service delivery tariffs, a minimum care package, and an essential drugs policy, aimed at facilitating care access and zero-charge for some services such as child-vaccination). Essential drugs are drugs of key importance to

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public health. They must be available at all times, in sufficient quantity, and in the appropriate pharmaceutical form. Drug selection is a component of the national pharmaceutical policy which aims at improving access to drugs all through the country. Besides essential drugs, the national drugs policy provides for the procurement of all drugs needs through the National Procurement Pharmacy (PNA), the regional procurement pharmacies (PRA), and a need-based emergency drug procurement system. Depending on the type of insurance, medications may be covered.

2 Labour Market

General information on labour market

Senegal has been a member of the International Labour Organization since 1960 and has ratified 37 international labour conventions.

Despite positive signs of growth recorded in Senegal since 2015, the labour market is unable to absorb an ever growing demand for jobs, associated with a strong demographic growth which was estimated at 3% between 2019 and 2020. According to Senegal's Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie (ANSD), in the second quarter of 2024, 57.6% of people of working age participated in the labor market. This level of activity was higher in rural areas, where it stood at 59.6%, compared with 56.2% in urban areas. By gender, it was higher among men than women, at 67.5% and 48.0% respectively. Year-on-year, the level of participation was 5.9 percentage points down on the same period in 2023. With regard to employment levels, the employment rate, which measures the proportion of working-age people in employment, stood at 40.8% for the quarter under review. This is 5.2 percentage points lower than in the second quarter of 2023, when it was estimated at 46.0%. Employment levels are higher in urban than in rural areas, with rates of 44.1% and 35.7% respectively. In addition, the employment rate is higher for men (54.2% vs. 28.0% for women). Wage employment accounted for 36.1% of total employment in the quarter under review. This was 1.3 percentage points down on the same period in 2023 (37.4%). It varies according to gender and place of residence. For men, it is estimated at 40.3%, compared with 28.4% for women.

Access to salaried employment is significantly higher in urban areas (43.8%) than in rural areas (21.4%).

The situation analysis of the employed work-force shows a majority of salaried workers (31.5% in 2017 and 31.1% in 2018) and non-agricultural self-employed people (40.7% in 2017 and 43.9% in 2018), which represent over 70.0% of the working population. Salaried employment is more important in urban areas where it represents over 40.0% of jobs compared to less than 20.0% in rural areas. In rural areas, 29.6% and 28.1% of all jobs were agricultural jobs in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Company owners/employers represent less than 3.0% of the working population. The relatively large proportion of self-employed workers (over 54.0% of the jobs) reflects the precarious nature of jobs in Senegal. More than half of the working population (60.3%) are independent workers or self-employed. In urban areas, this rate is 53.2% compared to 70.3% in rural areas. The employment rate for independent or self-employed workers is 53.4% for men compared to 69.5% for women. More than 40% (43.3%) of "employers/independent workers" work in "automobile trading and repair" while "agriculture, forestry, fishing" represent more than a quarter (25.4%) of the jobs in comparison to "Manufacturing", 11.6%. The other sectors represent less than 4% each.

According to the ANSD, the sectors which hired the most in 2017 were: i) Education (13.6%), ii) Special household activities (13.5%), iii) Construction (12.5%), iv) Agriculture, forestry, fishing (9.9%), v) Trade (8.9%), vi) Transport and storage (8.8%), vii) Manufacturing work (8.1%)

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Finding employment

The State-Employers National Convention is one of the few employment policy instruments that has stood the test of time. It was entered into for the first time in 1987 and was renewed in 2000, then in 2009. It is an effective partnership framework between the State and the employers to ensure a dynamic and regular promotion of youth employment. In its objectives, the convention aims to promote the competitiveness of the national economy by enhancing human resources through apprenticeship and training, but also, by facilitating businesses' access to a qualified workforce in the short or medium term, and at a low cost. Its main mission is the professional integration of job seekers, after a period of practical training in a company or in a private vocational school (depending on the curricula). The National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment (ANPEJ) was created in 2014, after the dissolution of four agencies dealing with the promotion of youth employment (FNPJ, ANEJ, ANAMA, AJEB). The ANPEJ targets young people aged 18 to 35 and offers them free short-term training in various fields such as entrepreneurship, project management, leadership, etc. It also offers support to young people in setting up and financing specific income-generating micro-projects.

The Directorate of Employment (DE) is responsible for formulating and coordinating the employment policy and regulations, as well as, the monitoring and evaluation of the legislation and policies. The DE is responsible for collecting and disseminating information about the evolution of the labour market trends. The DE is responsible for processing

job vacancies from foreign companies, ensuring the proper management of labour migration, and providing support to job-seekers in order to facilitate their access to employment. It supervises the Minister of Employment's management of human resources, including vocational trainings.

The National Labour Market Integration and Agricultural Development Agency (ANIDA) was created in May 2012, in replacement of the National Agency for the Return to Agriculture Policy (ANREVA), in order to promote the development of a modern, diversified agriculture, based on water control and providing sustainable jobs to young people. Its main mission is to ensure the creation and development of modern integrated agricultural farms for promoting sustainable jobs in the agricultural professions, and thus fight against youth unemployment, poverty, rural exodus and illegal emigration. The agency aims to create 400,000 jobs by 2018. In terms of achievements, ANIDA has been able to create 10,020 jobs, as of 2016.

Further education and training

The programs below aim at supporting job seekers, but also at promoting entrepreneurship through vocational or in-service training opportunities, and funding opportunities made available. The National Office for Vocational Training - Office National de Formation Professionnelle - (ONFP) was created in 1986, and has as a main mission to carry out studies on employment, vocational qualification, the quantitative and qualitative resources of pre-service and in-service vocational training. Its mandate

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is to provide workers and job-seekers with a qualification, enabling them to hold a job or, exercise a professional activity. The Community Agricultural Estates Program - Programme des Domaines Agricoles Communautaires - (PRODAC) was set up in 2014 and is under the line authority of the current Ministry of Employment. Its objective is to contribute to the reduction of social insecurity in rural areas by promoting agricultural entrepreneurship among youth and women. The PRODAC consists in developing vast areas of land (or community agricultural estates) and providing them with quality infrastructure allowing young people in particular

to engage in economic activities such as plant, animal, aquaculture, and crop production and their processing. For the first phase of the programme, which started in 2014 and ended in 2019, the objective was the creation of over 300,000 jobs via the creation of 11 community agricultural estates in the regions of Sédhiou, Louga, Kédougou, Dakar, Diourbel, Thiès, Kolda, Kaffrine, Fatick, and Matam.

The Vocational and Technical Training Fund - Le Fond de Financement de la Formation Professionnel et Technique - (3FPT) was established in 2014 with the main mission of ensuring the financing



Photo: IO Alioune Ndiaye

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of vocational and technical training in order to facilitate the professional integration of youth in the labour market. In nearly four years of existence, it has been able to grant training vouchers to 10,726 young people. The Delegation for Rapid Entrepreneurship - Délégation à l'Entrepreneuriat Rapide (DER) was created in 2017. It is under the authority of the President of the Republic's office and aims to promote youth and women's entrepreneurship. It intervenes in women and youth empowerment, the support to SME's and the structuring of the value chains. The Senegalese Youth Entrepreneurship Program - Programme Sénégalais pour l'Entrepreneuriat des Jeunes (PSE-J) is part of the reform known as the "Alignment of Higher Education Offers to the economic needs" of the Emerging Senegal Plan (PSE). It is under the line authority of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. Since its creation, the program has been able to train nearly 20,004 higher education graduates in entrepreneurship and in the PSE's priority areas such as agriculture, ICT, transport, and logistics, besides technically and financially supporting 20 innovative companies. The Youth Employment and Integration Emergency Program XËYU NDAW ÑI - Programme d'Urgence pour l'Emploi et l'Insertion des Jeunes XËYU NDAW ÑI - is an initiative that promotes youth integration and employment. As part of this program, launched on April 22, 2021, it is planned to recruit of 65,000 young people in the sectors of education, reforestation, public hygiene, security, road maintenance, the paving of cities, among others. Five thousand (5,000) teacher jobs in preschool, primary, middle and

secondary education, including modern Daaras and Arabic education are also planned under the program.

Youth and women job and entrepreneurship centers - these are dedicated spaces that will allow young people and women in the various regions of Senegal to receive direct assistance on issues of job training, financing, or support.

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Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: A returning migrant is primarily a person returning to his country of origin. In that respect, he benefits from access to education like any other Senegalese citizen. However, depending on the reason for his return, the type of return (voluntary or not, with or without assistance), the migrant may need support to facilitate his integration into the educational system or the training curriculum. If the migrant has the resources, he can choose to enrol in a curriculum that suits his aspirations and his level of education. He may also embark on job-seeking, if he has skills, or join on his own will local training and employability initiatives, like any other citizen. To benefit from the support of the IOM in Senegal, he must meet certain eligibility criteria. Within the framework of the current EUTF project, in particular, (i) he must either be a returnee from one of the 13 countries covered by the EUTF project in West and Central Africa or, from a North African or European country. (ii) he must show proof of his Senegalese nationality by having in his possession an identification document confirming his nationality.

Registration procedure:

It should be noted that everything starts from the country of departure where the migrant will have to benefit from pre-departure assistance following his registration for the process of Assistance for Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR);

On arrival in Senegal, he will benefit from homecoming assistance based on the need expressed by the departure mission;

The returnee will also benefit upon arrival from a vulnerability assessment enabling to meet his immediate needs; Once back at his place of origin or reintegration, he will be able to re-contact the IOM for reintegration counselling. During the process, we will assess their needs and skills and plan their reintegration, taking into account the 03 dimensions of reintegration (psychosocial, social, and economic) and the 03 levels of interventions (individual, community, structural). This process applies to all other reintegration activities. The migrant will be able to benefit from payment of his school fees as well as school supplies and uniforms, payment of training costs as well as training materials, an internship or job seeking assistance, financing of a micro-business or financial services.

In order to guarantee the sustainability of the reintegration, the migrant can benefit, after the support provided by the IOM, from referencing or an orientation towards state and non-state entities for additional financial or non-financial assistance.

Return migrants are most often active in trades/fields that they were in before their departure or, trades that members of their (close) family have advised them to embark on because they themselves have succeeded in that field: trading, agriculture/market gardening, breeding, fishing, tailoring and transport. These sectors are quite promising and when migrants benefit from quality capacity-building (in entrepreneurship, leadership, formalization, etc.), their activities can prosper and allow for job creation.

3 Housing

General information on housing

Being under the authority of the Ministry of Oil and Energy, the Société d'Électricité du Sénégal (Senelec) - The National Power Company, which is a public limited company with a majority public shareholding), is the lead operator. Its purpose is the production, transport, distribution, purchase, and wholesale and retail sale, import and export of electrical power. One also finds Independent Private Producers who are operators mainly present in rural electrification. Like any consumer, the electricity consumer (i.e. a person who subscribes a power supply policy with Senelec or a Rural Electrification operator) has rights and duties. Of these rights, we can mention the right: i) to obtain a subscription from Senelec or from a rural electrification operator; ii) to request, at any time, the verification of his meter by his operator, if he notices any defects; iii) to obtain compensation for prejudices (material damage) caused by the operator; iv) to refuse to pay the arrears of invoices left by the person who occupied the premises before him.

Regarding the tariff grids, they depend on the different types of use (household or professional), and whether the electricity is low, medium, or high voltage. For example, tariffs vary from FCFA 96.72 to FCFA 123.92 / kWh, for medium voltage power for household use. The Ministry of Water and Sanitation was created by decree n° 2019-769 of April 08, 2019. Accordingly, it is responsible, among

other things, for supplying drinking water to the populations in rural, urban and peri-urban areas; it is assigned the construction, operating, and maintenance of hydraulic infrastructure.

Since January 1st, 2020, SEN'EAU is the new drinking water management, supply, and distribution company in the urban and peri-urban areas of Senegal, while in rural areas, the Office des Forages Rurales - the Rural Borehole Office - (OFOR) - an industrial and commercial State-owned entity - is responsible for managing the public drinking water service in rural areas. To this end, OFOR recruits private operators, necessarily legal entities, who ensure the production, maintenance, and marketing (invoicing, bill recovery, and accounting) of drinking water supply services. Drinking water access rate in rural areas was 91% as of December 31, 2017, while it was 98.8% in urban areas where the percentage of household connections is 90.3%.

In Senegal, the legislative and regulatory framework for the housing sector is complex and includes several institutional actors housed in different ministries. Besides Act of Law 64-46 of June 17, 1964, governing land and property reform and Act of Law 96-07 of March 22, 1996; relating to the transfer of powers to regions, municipalities, and rural communities, there are still customary and informal practices that remain an inescapable reality in Senegal. To organize land use in cities, the State has designed, since colonial times, master plans for urban planning (PDU); Dakar, the capital city, has had them since 1946. development of serviced plots -parcelles assainies - (ready for construction plots and ZAC), the production of low-rent housing

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(SICAP and SN-HLM), and support to private housing cooperatives.

Since 2009, the housing policy has been based on a sectoral policy paper aiming to facilitate access to decent housing for middle classes and underprivileged populations. Overall, the housing sector's sectoral policy paper aims at sustainably developing the urban space through the development and implementation of appropriate planning tools (PDU), with a view to consistently implementing not only actions that facilitate access

to housing, but also the conditions for carrying out of the various functions of economic, social and cultural production. Senegal has also implemented specific programs to meet urgent or specific needs related to the housing sector. These are i) Urban Master Plans; (ii) programs for the development of serviced/enhanced housing plots; (iii) restructuring and regularization of informal precarious neighbourhoods; iv) the development of housing cooperatives; v) the "Plan Jaxaay" in the context of flooding



Photo: Unplash, 2019/ Anton Lecoq

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episodes; vi) the “100,000 housing units” program.

The materials used in the production of housing come from the domestic market (cement, sand dunes, concrete, etc.) and from imports (electrical supplies, sanitary ware, aluminum, glass, ceramics, wood, and its by-products, etc.). The large proportion of imported products makes it that any increase in prices on the international market automatically impacts construction costs. Supply and acquisition of plots for housing use in Senegal is still dominated by the informal sector.

The lack of registration, the high number of intermediaries, the complexity, and the cumbersomeness of registration procedures lead to significant disparities in the prices of housing in urban areas. The financing of the sector is provided largely by the banking sector for the acquisition of plots, the purchase, construction, or extension of housing. However, the beneficiaries of this funding are mostly formal sector workers with collaterals that informal actors cannot afford. In another respect, high interest rates and lack of stable long-term resources exclude a large proportion of the workers



Photo: IOM 2019/ Anton Lecock

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in the formal sector (the assignable salary portion being lower than the annuities to be repaid). The combination of the above factors (inadequate financing, insufficient serviced plots, high cost of construction materials, complex legislative framework, domination of the informal sector) makes it difficult to massively produce housing at affordable prices□□ while the housing deficit is 150,000 in Dakar and 350,000 throughout the entire country.

In 2020, the Ministry of Urban Planning, Housing, and Public Hygiene launched the “Senegal Zero Bidonville Program” - “the Slum-free Senegal Programme” - which aims at eradicating slums by 2035 and preventing the creation of new slums. As a fact, according to statistics from the national statistics agency, Senegal’s urbanization rate has doubled in 50 years, moving from 23% in 1960 to more than 46% in 2018. This rapid and unplanned growth is responsible for the development of slums in non-aedificandi areas exposed to urban risks, and unsuitable for housing in most cities in Senegal. Slums represent nearly 40% of all housing in Senegal, and are characterized by poor access to urban facilities and services. The populations living in these areas are confronted with climate change-related natural hazards, insecurity, overcrowding, and massive unemployment, especially youth and women. The Zero Slums Program is an intersectoral and multi-institutional program that aims to improve the living environment and conditions of more than 4,000,000 people, i.e. more than 500,000 households living in the slums by 2035. To achieve this objective, the program will be structured around four areas of intervention, in particular, the construction of 100,000

homes and housing units over the next 5 years. The beneficiary targets of this project have been identified as follows: i) 50% of the housing units are intended for applicants with a monthly income of less than CFAF 450,000; ii) 20% for Senegalese in the diaspora, in other words emigrants; iii) and 30% for applicants belonging to a higher standing, in order to guarantee social diversity but also reduce

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: In Senegal, the only reception center for return migrants is located in the region of Tambacounda, in the south of the country, about 490 km from Dakar, the capital city. Migrants arriving by land were received there temporarily before reaching their final destination. The Tambacounda Migrant Response and Resource Center (MRRC) began providing services to migrants in October 2018 and was officially inaugurated in December 2018 once high-level participation was secured. But since April 2021, the MRRC is closed due to a low influx of returning migrants in the region because of the COVID-19 travel restriction response measures.

In Dakar, the arrival destination of international flights, there is no reception center; but the IOM Senegal has an agreement with a local hotel to facilitate temporary accommodation, if needed, before returnee migrants’ travel to their final destination. In this case, an ordinary travel request can be sent to Movement Operations Dakar.

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inequalities. An online registration campaign was opened in December 2019 via the site <https://www.10000logements.com/> for a duration which, it seems, did not exceed 3 months; the campaign was recently re-launched, in August 2021.

General information on social welfare

The Emerging Senegal Plan (PSE) gives high priority to social protection through its second pillar of intervention “Human capital, social protection and sustainable development”, with its three strategic objectives: i) Strengthening social security for workers and retired people; ii) Improving socio-economic conditions of vulnerable groups; iii) Extending social protection to the informal sector and vulnerable groups through the establishment of Universal Health Coverage (CMU).

The National Social Protection Strategy (SNPS) drafted in 2005 was updated in 2016 to reflect the vision of the PSE. It is based on the achievements recorded during the period of the previous strategy implementation (SNPS/GRC 2005-2015), as well as on the identified social protection deficits, the strategic choices of the State, and the lessons learned from the international experience. Developed around the life cycle approach, this strategy aims to make the entire social protection system more inclusive by taking on board a larger proportion of poor and vulnerable people.

The inventory of social protection schemes and programs suggests that social protection mechanisms and programs bring together social insurance mechanisms that group all contributory and semi-contributory mechanisms, on the one hand, and, on the other hand,

non-contributory social assistance mechanisms. A third category gathers the programmes of access to employment, and finally, a fourth category distinguishes interventions targeting specific groups of individuals through services that can be customized and that meet the definition of social welfare.

I-) Social insurance schemes

The Senegalese social security scheme for salaried workers covers all risks except unemployment.

Health risk cover is not guaranteed under the Social Security Code (Act of Law 73.37 of July 31, 1973), but is in the provisions of the labour code resulting from Act of Law n° 75-50 of April 3, 1975 (relating to Social Security Institutions). In the context of Senegal, social insurance groups contributory schemes, financed by contributions paid by beneficiaries and their employers within the formal social security schemes; special schemes for civil servants are also included, as well as the health mutual funds, which participate in the extension of the Universal Health Coverage.

Social security coverage is acquired through employment, and covers only a small proportion of the working population (civil servants and salaried workers of the formal sector) strongly dominated by the informal economy, and work in the rural areas. These social protection schemes are compulsory and pay to the insured individuals, in consideration of the employees and employers' financial contributions (social security contributions) a set of services. We will include here civil servants and military officers cover, even if this cover depends largely on State funding, without any contribution from the beneficiaries.

Social security groups thus several

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schemes:

- Health coverage (generally called “The Civil Servants’ Scheme”: sickness allowance, family benefits (with cash payment benefits which are relatively low), invalidity, (survivors’ and occupational risks) by the State which self-insures these social risks for civil-servants and military officials
- Health coverage for State employees is ensured through the “charge-the-budget” system. The State budget pays 80%, i.e. 4/5th of treatment costs to the exclusion of drugs. The 20%, which represents 1/5th is paid by the worker himself. However, it should be noted that pharmaceutical costs are not covered by the system; which explains the creation by State employees of complementary health mutual funds ;
- The National Retirement Fund (FNR), the funding of which is shared between the State (employer) and civil servants. The FNR provides old-age pensions and also covers the health and survivors coverage schemes for retired civil servants, their spouses, and children.

The Social Security Fund (CSS) manages the branches of family benefits, maternity-related benefits, and occupational risks for employees in the private sector and for non-civil servants working for the State. The CSS is a private law entity tasked with a public service mission, managed by the employers’ organizations and trade unions, the State being represented as an employer (non-civil servants working for the State).

The Pensions Provident Institute of Senegal - Institution de Prévoyance

Retraite du Sénégal - (IPRES) manages the old age cover branch for private-sector employees and non-civil servants working for the State. Although this was not part of its initial mission, IPRES also covers (100%) the healthcare expenses for its beneficiaries (retired and survivors). Its status and administration are identical to those of CSS.

The Sickness Provident Institutions (IPM) for companies (with a workforce of at least 100 employees) or inter-company (for companies with less than 100 employees) manage the sickness cover branch. In fact, the Ministry of Labour, Social Dialogue, Professional Organizations, and Relations with the Institutions has enforced the compulsory health insurance reform (AMO) establishing the Universal Health Cover (CMU). This reform, which entered into force in March 2013, requires employers of companies with more than 100 employees to create or affiliate their employees to a sickness provident institution (IPM), guaranteeing them health cover. These institutions cover 40% to 80% of the costs, and care is obtained only from providers they have registered. The IPMs are autonomous funds managed at the level of the companies; they are coordinated by the Institution de Coordination de l'Assurance Maladie Obligatoire (ICAMO) - the Institution for the Coordination of Compulsory Health Insurance - which, since January 2019, has been managing a guarantee fund financed by contributions of the IPMs and ensuring equalization among them.

II-) Voluntary contribution schemes
Along with social security schemes, voluntary mutual schemes are developing in

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Senegal and can be grouped into 3 main types of organizations:

The complementary mutual funds are often set up by civil servants for services not covered by the State (the State employees' mutual fund, the Customs Officers mutual funds, the Armed Forces mutual fund, etc.) These complementary health mutual funds come in supplement to the civil servants' scheme managed by the State and which covers only 80% of certain expenses (hospitalization, lab tests, and consultations) and excludes pharmaceutical costs in private pharmacies. The municipal mutual funds are set in place in the framework of the Universal Health Cover (CMU) and target the rural population and those in the informal sector who are excluded from the formal schemes. The country has to date 676 municipal mutual funds, 651 of which are operational. These mutual funds are grouped into departmental and regional clusters inside a national federation and are supported by the CMU Agency (ACMU).

The Mutual funds known as professional mutual funds which are organized by professional organizations of the informal sector like TransVie, the transporters' social mutual fund, or backed by a microfinance network such as the health mutual fund of the PAMECAS savings and credit network.

III-) Social welfare

It groups a plurality of non-contributory programs implemented by the State with the support of external partners and targeting the poor and vulnerable populations. These programs are very varied in scope. We can distinguish, on the one hand, social welfare programs,

which are similar to universal schemes, and, on the other hand, those which can be considered as falling in the realm of welfare. Even with this distinction, the field of social welfare remains heterogeneous and brings together a diversity of programs to access health, education, food and nutritional security, and the fight against poverty. Schematically presented, we can distinguish two main groups of programs:

III-1 The universal schemes which target the entire population or certain segments of the population (children, elderly people, etc.) but without subjecting assistance to the socio-economic situation of the individuals; these are:

The medical assistance programmes of the Universal Health Cover (CMU) which group free care for children aged 0-5 at the level of the reference health posts and centers, the deliveries by caesarean section, dialysis as well as the Plan SESAME for people aged 60 and over (launched in 2006). For school students, since January 1st, 2017, when enrolling for an elementary, middle, or secondary school cycle, a student automatically subscribes a health mutual fund which entitles him/her to a health insurance scheme: the student Universal Health Cover (Student-CMU). Subscription fees amount to 4,500 FCFA per student and per year distributed as follows: 3,500 FCFA are subsidized by the Agency which manages health coverage, and 1,000 FCFA are paid by the student. Access to education programs (pre-schools, schools, school canteens, and higher education scholarships), even if some programmes are deployed in underserved rural and peri-urban areas. Food and nutritional security programs

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aimed at all households affected by shocks, these households were not necessarily in a situation of vulnerability or poverty before the occurrence of these shocks.

III-2) Schemes which are also of a universal nature but which intervention is restricted to the populations identified as living in poverty (the scheme is universal because it targets all the individuals within that target population). This category corresponds to the social safety nets.

The National Family Security Grant Program - Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale - (PNBSF, initiated in 2014) which offers a quarterly allowance of 25,000 FCFA to 316,940 households, or approximately 2,440,450 individuals, falls into this category. The beneficiary households of the PNBSF, as well as more and more social welfare programs, are identified by the Single National Register (RNU), which constitutes a major development in social welfare in Senegal. The PNBSF and the RNU are two unifying elements around which a linkage between different social assistance programs is gradually being organized, with the objective of offering households in a situation of permanent poverty an integrated package combining cash transfer, access to health, and support for productive activities in order to exit poverty. The beneficiary Households of the PNBSF are automatically enrolled in the CMU and benefit from the payment of their health expenses through municipal mutual funds. People living with a disability and holders of the Equal Opportunities Card (CEC) are beneficiaries of the PNBSF and are also covered

by the CMU.

IV-) Social welfare and national solidarity Some programs can be assimilated to category-specific non-contributory schemes that target very specific groups of population such as women victims of violence, vulnerable children, people living with a disability, etc. Others are aimed at poor households and individuals but intervene only when they are called upon by the latter. These programs organize national, even local solidarity with the growing role played by local governments in favour of the most underserved, and are important from their role in protecting and supporting the most vulnerable households

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: The returnee migrant who meets the vulnerability criteria defined under the EUTF project can benefit from social assistance (housing assistance, medical assistance, food, education assistance), in principle, for a maximum duration of 6 months after their return. After this period, he will have to take the necessary steps so that, if need be, his household is considered vulnerable and registered in the Single National Register to benefit from the family security grant or other types of social assistance, at national or local level. To benefit from Universal Health Cover, the returning migrant could, on his own undertaking, take the necessary steps to join, himself and his family, to a health mutual fund in his urban or rural municipality. To this end, the membership conditions are as follows: i) be at least 21 years old (for the holder of the beneficiary booklet); ii) have their membership fees paid; iii) provide 02 identity photos;

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iv) commit to regularly pay their contributions for themselves and their dependents based on the option taken (annual, semi-annual or quarterly); v) accept the statutes and by-laws of the mutual fund. The amount of the annual contribution is 7,000 FCFA per person per year, subsidized by the State for up to 50% for people who have the abilities to contribute, or 3,500 FCFA. For indigent people, no contribution is requested (cover is 100%). With the establishment of the Single National Register, the methodology for targeting vulnerable households has been significantly improved because the National Agency for Statistics and Demography, which has been associated in the operations from the beginning (in 2013), is now exclusively responsible for this activity since 2015.

As a result, the credibility and transparency of the approach is guaranteed by a scoring (score obtained from the quantitative and qualitative data available) allowing to objectively rank households based on their level of vulnerability. At the end of 2018, the RNU had identified 452,053 households, or around 28% of Senegalese households.

and individuals. It should be noted that several ministries are engaged in these initiatives, including the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection, and the Ministry of Justice. According to estimates, the participation of individuals from the target groups in the various insurance and social welfare cover schemes is still relatively low, hovering around 38%.

Pension system

The Senegalese retirement pension system consists of 2 compulsory schemes:

- The Retirement Provident Institution of Senegal - Institution de Prévoyance Retraite du Sénégal - (IPRES) which covers the private sector employees, the non-civil servants working for the State, the employees of local governments
- The National Retirement Fund (FNR), which covers civilian civil servants and military officials.

The financing of the retirement pension system is mainly ensured by contributions levied on the total of all remunerations.

1) IPRES

IPRES manages 2 pension schemes, based on the points distribution technique:

The General Retirement Scheme (RGR) for private-sector employees and non-civil servants working for the State, the Local Governments and Public entities. The Executive Supplementary Retirement Scheme (RCC) for salaried executives.

The IPRES also manages the retirement pension of domestic workers (REM). The conditions for obtaining a retirement pension from IPRES are i) to be 60 years old (55 years in the event of an exhausting job); ii) have ceased all salaried activity; iii) have at least 1,000 pension points or have contributed for at least 10 years. Since January 1, 2017, retirees who obtain 1000 base points or more or less 120 months of contribution will be paid a lifetime pension. Retirees with less than 1,000 base points and less than 120 months of contribution benefit

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from a single payment.

2) The FNR For civil servants, the principle is that any civil servant fulfilling the conditions of age and length of service can compile a retirement pension file in order to benefit from his retirement rights. Any official who has reached the age threshold provided by his statute or who has been automatically sent to retirement due to invalidity. Any female civil servant having completed at least 15

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: Given their poorly suited socio-professional background (most are young people who were working in the informal sector before embarking on irregular immigration), returning migrants wishing to have a retirement pension, should approach the IPRES or the insurance companies for advice and guidance as soon as their reintegration process is well on track.

years of service, mother of a minimum of 3 children, the effect being immediate. threshold provided by his statute or who has been automatically sent to retirement due to invalidity.

Vulnerable groups

Filling in the “vulnerability criteria” form by the department of protection of the IOM Country Office makes it possible to identify returning migrants in a state of vulnerability and to help them within the framework of the reintegration processes (social, psychosocial, and economic.) of the EUTF project.

To receive the assistance to which he is entitled, the returning migrant must present (at least) the following documents to the IOM Dakar staff, depending on the type of assistance requested:

Income-generating activity: a business plan, a proforma invoice (for goods and services required), a rental contract (in the case of renting a warehouse/shop), the supplier's identity document; Transportation activity (taxi, mototaxi): vehicle registration document, driving license, certified sales certificate, valid insurance; House renting: rental agreement, receipts; Medical care cover: doctor's prescription and laboratory test report or x-rays,

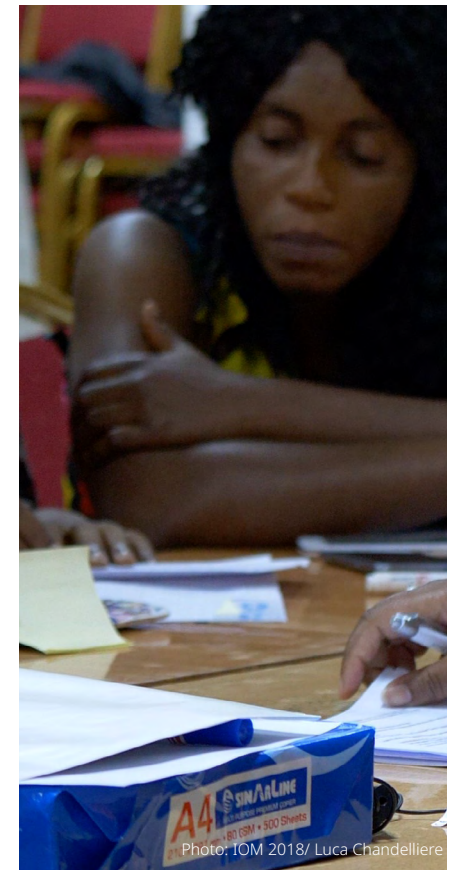


Photo: IOM 2018/ Luca Chandelliere

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proforma invoice, etc.

Once payment has been made, the returning migrant will need to provide the IOM staff with the final invoice, contract, or final proof of sale, and sign a receipt.

General information on education

In Senegal, there are two types of educational offers in general, formal education and non-formal education, within which there are two types of schooling offers: public schools (characterized by free schooling, covers all 14 regions, and is managed by the State) and private schools (confessional or secular).

I-) The formal educational offer

The formal education sector covers several levels and types of education.

I-1) Preschool education for children aged 3 to 5. In 2019, the population of preschool age was 735,984 boys (51.2%) and 701,177 girls (48.8%), which made a total of 1,437,161.

The gross pre-schooling rate was 17.6%, with disparities between the 14 regions of the country; it varies between 5.5% and 38.7% between the academies and only 6 have rates above the national average.

The number of preschool facilities listed in 2019 was 3,581, of which 44.1% were private, 40.6% were public, and 15.3% were community-based. The public sector is managed by the National Agency for Early Childhood and the Case des Tout-Petits (ANPECTP) established by decree n° 2010-547 of April 30, 2010. The agency is responsible for the case des tout-petits, public kindergartens, and early learning centers or community day-care centers.

I-2) Elementary education, lasting 6 years, is intended in principle for children

aged 7 to 12. The elementary course is divided into three stages; the first stage: the initiation course (CI) and the preparatory course (CP); the second stage: the first year elementary course (CE1) and the second year elementary course (CE2); the third stage: the first primary school completion course in the first year (CM1) and the second primary school completion course in the second year (CM2). The course is sanctioned by the Completion Certificate of Elementary Studies (CFEE).

In 2019, the Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) in Elementary education was 84.9% (78.4% for boys and 91.6% for girls). The total population of 2,171,967 students enrolled in the Elementary cycle consisted of a majority of students from public schools (82.9%) compared to 16.8% for private schools and 0.2% for community/associative schools.

I-3) Secondary education

It is subdivided in two cycles: a first cycle that lasts 4 years and teaches the 12-15 age group (General Intermediate Education) going from the grade 1 (sixième) to the grade 4 (troisième) and is sanctioned by a diploma called Brevet de Fin d'Etudes Moyens (BFEM); a second cycle that lasts 3 years (and educates 16 to 18 years old students), this is General Secondary Education, going from the Seconde class to the Terminale, and sanctioned by the Baccalaureate diploma. In 2019, the gross enrolment rate in General Intermediate Secondary Education was 49.8%, and 33.2% in General Higher Secondary Education (p.82).

I-4) Vocational and Technical Training

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(VTT)

In the formal system, VTT programs are offered at secondary and tertiary levels. At the secondary level, VTT is provided in technical high schools as well as in vocational education and training centers, and prepares students for a professional activity or vocational training for higher education.

As of 2019, vocational and technical training had a network of 406 functional public and private schools; 70.44% were private, compared to 29.56% for the public sector. This network is characterized by a disparity between the 14 regions, Dakar, the capital city, gathering 120 schools, or nearly a third of the total number of schools. The Ministry of Employment, Vocational Training and Handicrafts recorded 100,738 learners in 2019, of which 54,540 in the public sector and 46,198 in the private sector. When we know that for the same year, the number of students enrolled in both general intermediate education and general secondary education was 1,086,197, we have an overview of the low number of student in vocational and technical training education compared to general education, whereas it is an important means of strengthening the employability of young people.

I-5) Higher education: it is ensured in universities and higher training institutes for students who passed the Baccalaureate and it covers increasingly diversified areas of knowledge thanks in particular to the private sector educational offer. These higher education institutions provide training for obtaining the highest degrees (master's, doctorate degrees) and are having more and more relations with universities world around

(Africa, Western Europe, North America, Japan, etc.).

In order to diversify the educational offer, the State has, since 2003, initiated the introduction of Franco-Arab schools as part of the formal offer. These are educational institutions combining the teaching of Arabic and French, a duality from which they take their name. Franco-Arab schools are mainly located in regions with a strong religious imprint in which a rejection of formal schools has long hampered the Government's educational efforts. The overall population of Franco-Arabic students in the Intermediate General education was estimated at 23,905 students in 2019, representing 3.2% of the total number of students.

II-) The non-formal education offer

Non-formal education is any educational activity organized outside the established formal education system and intended to serve clients and achieve identifiable instructional goals. It can target people of any age. In the context of Senegal, the categorization of non-formal educational offers is as follows:

Literacy classes: are popular initiatives aimed at learning to read and write in national languages and/or Arabic for the acquisition of basic writing skills for all ages, including adults. These literacy initiatives are mainly driven by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local community-based organizations (CBOs) with the support of international NGOs and various financial partners. For the year 2019, there were 15,450 learners in functional literacy classes, of whom, 96% were women, constituting the overwhelming majority of these learners. Community Basic Schools (ECBs) are

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another model of education that targets children aged 9 to 14 who either have not had the opportunity to enter the formal sector or have left it much too early. Course duration is four years. The languages of instruction are the national languages and French.

- The Daaras are traditional religious education schools. The daara was one of the first basic education entities entrusted with the education and socialization of children in Senegal. They are largely connected to the religious and brotherhood tradition of the country. There are several types of daaras (seasonal; boarding school; and intermittent daaras). A pilot study published in 2016, conducted by the Ministry of National Education (MEN) with the support of UNICEF and the German Cooperation (GIZ) identified 4,771 daaras across Senegal and 287,367 learners.

Elementary education and general intermediate education make the fundamental cycle, lasting a total of ten years. This fundamental cycle constitutes the compulsory school time provided by Act of Law 2004-37 of December 15, 2004, amending and supplementing the National Education Orientation Law n° 91-22 of February 16, 1991. Its article 3a provides that “school is compulsory for all children, boys, and girls aged from 6 to 16”. But if we assess by the gross enrolment rates at elementary and general intermediate education, we realize that the law is not quite enforced in actual terms.

Cost, loans, and stipends

Theoretically, according to Act of Law 2004-37, public education is free. In

actual practice, parents generally contribute via registration fees paid once per school year to parents’ associations for the operating costs. These fees are lower, or even not charged at the elementary level where the local governments (City Halls), on the basis of State grants, ensure schools receive school supplies; this allocation varies from one municipality to another. At the level of intermediate and secondary education, the registration fees from 6ème to Terminale amount to 10,000FCFA covering student insurance, in-school repairs, educational funds, and scientific funds. For exam classes, there are additional costs of FCFA 2,000 for the 3ème class and FCFA 6,000 for the Terminale. Note that in some schools, registration fees can exceed FCFA 10,000; in that case, it is the members of the school’s internal management committee who must approve the excess amount. There is no scholarship system in elementary and secondary education. Although since 2014, the State has made efforts to provide students with textbooks. The deficits are still significant, and in a large majority, the burden of providing students with school supplies and textbooks is the responsibility of parents. In 2020, in public elementary schools, the ratio of French and mathematics textbooks per pupil was on average 0.8 for the 16 academies that exist in the 14 regions of the country (for French textbooks, only 3 academies reached the ratio of 1 textbook per pupil while for mathematics, the number of academies was 2). In addition, subject to payment of registration fees, which vary from 25,000 to 75,000 FCFA, higher education is also free in the public sector. The State of Senegal, through the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and

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Innovation, specifically, the Department of Scholarships, grants study allowances in the form of scholarships, aid, subsidies, and allowances to students who fulfil the required conditions. The award criteria were set by decree n° 2014-963 of August 12, 2014, and by order 00532 of 01/15/2015. Depending on the type of scholarship granted, the award conditions may vary.

Excellence scholarships and full-rate scholarships are awarded exclusively on the basis of the performance of students at the Baccalaureate exam.

Any Baccalaureate-holder of an ongoing school year enrolled in a higher education institution and who passes the exam with Grade A or B+ (mention Très Bien, Bien), or is a prize-winner at Concours Général can benefit from the Excellence scholarship to study abroad. Grants and miscellaneous costs are also covered such as the annual supplies costs, the reimbursement, based on submitted receipts, of the exam fees for the second preparatory year up to an amount of FCFA 500,000.

Any Baccalaureate-holder of an ongoing school year enrolled in a higher education institution who passes the exam with Grade B (Assez-Bien) and who accesses higher education schools and institutes via competition/selection/ test or is a beneficiary of a cooperation grant may be eligible for full-rate scholarship (FCFA 40,000/month, or about 60€).

In accordance with decree n° 2014-963 of August 12, 2014, and the decrees which supplement it, a half-rate scholarship (FCFA 20,000 per month) is awarded to any Baccalaureate holder of the S1, S3, S4, S5, T1, T2, and F6 streams, not awarded excellence or full-rate scholarship. For the S2, S2A, G, STEG streams, an

average grade of at least 10.50/20 is required for the Baccalaureate, while for the L streams (L1, L2, L’, LAR, LA) an average grade of 10.90/20 minimum is needed. Besides these three types of scholarships, the Directorate of Scholarships may award social scholarships to students; i) orphans or of indigent parents, ii) physically disabled, iii) or with chronic diseases (sickle cell disease, haemophilia, diabetes, etc.); prioritizing the school performance criterion in the event of similar social situation.

Approval and verification of foreign diplomas

There are two forms of equivalence: professional equivalence and academic equivalence. Professional equivalence is established by the Ministry of Public Administration. The conditions are set by the internal regulations of the Commission for the Recognition, Classification, and Equivalence of Higher Education Diplomas (CRCE). Academic equivalence is issued either by the General Directorate of Higher Education (DGES) or by the Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar (UCAD) in accordance with the following decrees:

- decree n° 77-010 of January 4, 1977, setting the list of titles and diplomas admitted in equivalence of the secondary education Baccalaureate, amended by decrees n° 80-514 of March 21, 1980 and n° 95-212 of February 23, 1995;
- Decree n° 77-1096 of December 8, 1977, setting the list of titles admitted in equivalence of one or more years of higher education studies for the registration in the faculties of UCAD.

Memorandum n° 0003377 UCAD/

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RECT/SG/ DAJ of April 01, 2020, sets the conditions for accepting applications for equivalence at UCAD.

General situation of children and infants

In 2013, Senegal adopted a National Child Protection Strategy, the main goal of which is to set up a national system that allows lessons to be learned from existing practices and the limits of Senegalese policies in terms of child protection. It is based on two strategic objectives:

- putting in place an integrated national protection system which includes the measures for which the State is primarily responsible for the establishment, in partnership with all stakeholders, of a new integrated national child protection system;
- supporting and promoting positive social change is about providing flexible services and measures, which should benefit families, communities, and civil society.

This is a concerted and coordinated approach by three (03) key Ministries, in particular, the Ministry of Women, Children and Women Entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. The 2013 statistics have certainly evolved positively, but the implementation of this national strategy is still justified if we refer to the situation of children through these few statistics below. The population of Senegal was estimated in 2019 at 16,209,125 inhabitants of which more than half (52.8%) were under 20 years old. Senegal's demographic structure is therefore strongly characterized by

the young age of its population. The gross birth rate is 34 for an average annual population increase of 2.5% on the basis of a fertility rate of 4.7 children per woman, with more than 75% of the population being less than 35 years old, therefore in full childbearing age. According to the 2019 DHS, the infant and child mortality rate (mortality of children under 5) is 37 for the 5-year period preceding the survey. According to World Bank statistics, in 2015, 44.7% of children aged 7-14 were in working; the overwhelming majority of them were active in agriculture (86.5%) and as family helpers, therefore, were unpaid (85.5%). Estimated at 79.3% for the 2-4 age group, the birth registration rate is higher in urban areas (92.7%) than in rural areas (70.7%). Besides, according to the 2019 DHS, the practice of female genital mutilation is still fairly widespread in Senegal and hits 25% of women aged 15 to 49, most of whom (84.9%) were mutilated before the age 5. In addition to these practices, there are other situations such as domestic violence, abuses inflicted on children in the family environment, and sexual violence in all settings, which appear to have a significant but insufficiently known magnitude. However, some data allow however to have an insight into this worrying phenomenon. With regard to institutional actors who intervene in the field of child rights and protection in general, besides the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection and its partner international organizations (UN agencies and international NGOs such as Save the Children, World Vision, Child Fund, SOS Village d'Enfants, Plan International, etc.), we also note the presence of many local NGOs and CSOs

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which are also active in this area. The National Coalition of Associations and NGOs in favour of the Child (CONAFE Senegal), is an umbrella organization that gathers more than a hundred organizations and associations working in the field of children. Established in 2004, it is present in principle in the 14 regions; it "places its actions within a framework of questioning, advocacy, influence and monitoring of the enforcement of Conventions relating to human rights, particularly, child rights and the respect of the commitments made by the Heads of States and the NGOs" .



Photo: Unsplash 2021 / Universal eye

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Ministère de la Justice/ Direction de l'Education Surveillée et de la Protection Sociale (DESPS)

Directrice : Awa NDOYE DIOUF
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8 At a glance

Measures to be taken before return

- **Virtual counselling:** Upon request by the host country, IOM SL mission can provide virtual counselling to returning migrant to answer questions with regards making and informed decision to return. This also includes sharing the current realities in the country of origin (COO) and opportunities available for to achieve sustainable reintegration if they decide to return.
- **Coordination with national partners and families for the reception:** Once the arrival date is confirmed, the Reintegration Officer of IOM in Sierra Leone ensures the government partners involved in the reception of returnees are notified about the planned movement through official letters and/or official emails to the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), keeping the Sierra Leone Immigration Department (SLID) and the Office of National Security (ONS) in copy. The government has the prerogative to request a hold, postpone or cancellation of the proposed movement if certain procedures are unclear to them.

Measures to be taken upon arrival

- **IOM:** When receiving returnees arrived on commercial flights, IOM Staff will meet the migrants upon entrance into the arrival hall and proceed with them through the Immigration passport control, support with luggage collection and deliver the welcome address before leaving the arrival hall.