

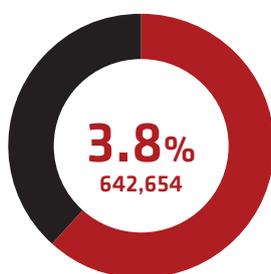


Diaspora engagement mapping **SENEGAL**

Facts & figures

Emigration

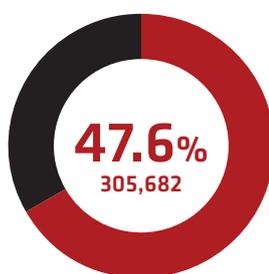
% of emigrants in total population



♂ 61.7%
♀ 38.3%



% of which in the EU



♂ 66.8%
♀ 33.2%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **9.9%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **2,495**



Top countries of destination

Gambia	132,518
France	129,790
Italy	103,744
Spain	51,789
United States	45,695



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Senegal refers to its diaspora as 'Senegalese abroad' (French: *sénégalais de l'extérieur*). The term 'diaspora' is also used in some official documents, for example in relation to promoting investment

1 See Loi n° 61-70 du 7 mars 1961, Code de la nationalité sénégalaise: <http://www.servicepublic.gouv.sn/assets/textes/T-nationalite-senegalaise.pdf> ; as well as the 2013 amendments: <http://www.jo.gouv.sn/spip.php?article9794> . While dual citizenship is technically not recognised, Senegalese citizens do not automatically lose their citizenship if they acquire citizenship in another state

2 English version of the full text of the 2001 Constitution (amended in 2016): https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Senegal_2016.pdf?lang=en See also <https://aceproject.org/ace-ar/topics/va/country-case-studies/senegal-a-significant-external-electorate>

3 Ibid.

Sector Policy for Overseas Senegalese



Sector Policy for Overseas Senegalese (*Lettre de politique sectorielle des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur*) was published in 2006 by the Ministry of Senegalese Abroad and revised in 2011. Its objectives include: ensuring good management of migration flows; ensuring social, health, and legal protection of Senegalese residing abroad; promotion of Senegalese abroad; and reinforcing institutional support structures.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 1975** ● **Law 75-33⁵** states that the rights of Senegalese migrant workers in France are protected through a Convention on social security issues signed between Senegal and France on 5 March 1960 (renegotiated 29 March 1974 and through the law 75-33 of 3 March 1974).
- 2012** ● **National Strategy for Economic and Social Development 2013–2017⁶** includes a number of priorities to stimulate economic cooperation, enable regional integration, and facilitate the participation of Senegalese abroad. These include developing a proactive economic diplomacy; deepening regional integration, removing impediments to the free movement of persons; and involvement of Senegalese abroad in national development efforts, by popularizing diaspora investment opportunities; and improving migration data management on the diaspora, as well as promoting the transfer of diaspora knowledge and know-how.⁷
- 2014** ● **Plan Sénégal Emergent 2014-2035 (PSE)⁸** establishes the President of Senegal's development priorities.⁹ The plan includes the aim to boost economic cooperation, regional integration and the participation of Senegalese abroad, with the objective of “developing a proactive economic diplomacy” to better attract diaspora investments, tourism, and technology transfer.^{10 11}
- 2018** ● **Draft National Migration Policy of Senegal (Politique nationale de migration du Sénégal, PNMS)¹²** comprises four strategic areas, the first of which - migration, migration management, economy and employment - includes objectives to enhance the potential contribution of the Senegalese diaspora to national development efforts. This document has yet to be formally adopted by the Senegalese government, and has been criticised for focussing on border management.¹³ Since its technical validation, there has been little information in regards to the adoption of the PNMS.

4 See, inter alia, Sorana Toma (2014), Policy and Institutional Frameworks –Senegal Country Report, INTERACTRR2014/16, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, San Domenico di Fiesole (FI): European University Institute, available at: https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/33213/INTERACT_RR_2014%20_16_.pdf;sequence=1; MTM i-Map

Volet Migration et Développement – SENEGAL ; West African interests in (EU) migration policy, UNU Policy Brief Number 04 2019, available at : <https://www.ies.be/files/PB-2019-4.pdf>

5 http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=fr&p_isn=15480&p_count=99377

6 Full text in English available at: <https://extranet.who.int/nutrition/gina/sites/default/files/SEN%202012%20National%20Strategy%20for%20Economic%20and%20Social%20Development%20%28NSESD%29%202013-2017.pdf>

7 Ibid.

8 Full text in French available at: https://www.sec.gouv.sn/sites/default/files/Plan%20Senegal%20Emergent_0.pdf

9 ‘Straddling Two Worlds: Highly Skilled Migrants from Senegambia and Switzerland’, Migration Policy Institute, March 2017, available at: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/straddling-two-worlds-highly-skilled-migrants-senegambia-and-switzerland>

10 Specifically, it seeks to achieve this through disseminating productive investment opportunities, supporting diaspora initiatives, ensuring protection and respect for their rights, and improving the management of data on migration.

11 The associated PSE Priority Action Plan (PAP) 2019-2023 notes that to achieve PSE's objectives, the support of various stakeholders will be required, including ‘the dynamic contributions of the diaspora’, although it gives no detail about how these will be harnessed. For more information, see : https://www.sentresor.org/app/uploads/pap2_pse.pdf

12 République du Sénégal, MEFP, DGPPE, DDCH (2018), Politique Nationale de Migration du Sénégal

13 <http://www.emedia.sn/QUAND-LA-PRIMATURE-DISPARAIT-AVEC-LE-DOCUMENT-DE-POLITIQUE-MIGRATOIRE.html>



Trends

Senegal's approach to diaspora engagement and management can be characterised as following three broad approaches.¹⁴ Firstly, the establishment of systems and institutions for the management and the monitoring of Senegalese abroad, the foremost of which is the Direction Générale des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur or DGSE (see Annex), which has proved a regional leader in this regard.¹⁵ The second is to actively seek to engage the diaspora in Senegal's economic development, especially through investment opportunities (see Spotlight). Lastly, it seeks to attract return migration from highly skilled Senegalese diaspora professionals.

The emphasis in Senegal's approach to diaspora engagement has been to encourage diaspora investment, technology and skills transfer, and productive diaspora return.¹⁶ However, this approach is based on an 'unidirectional' basis which does not necessarily fit with the Senegalese diaspora's own transnational experiences and desire for short-term return and circular migration opportunities.¹⁷

Achievements

Senegal has a proud record of enabling diaspora civic and political participation. In addition to diaspora overseas voting, the National Assembly dedicates 15 of its 165 parliamentary seats for Senegalese abroad.¹⁸

Senegal has sought to target its diaspora populations in Africa and the Global North through its policy frameworks. The country has developed an impressive array of structures to support diaspora engagement, and has had some successes in harnessing diaspora contributions at local level.

Obstacles



- **Institutional capacities:** While the Direction de l'Assistance et de la Promotion des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur (DAPSE) is the lead agency for diaspora engagement and has developed a structured approach to diaspora engagement, the fact that migration is a domain shared across many different ministries and committees can be a source of confusion and inefficiency. Effective implementation of Senegal's diaspora engagement policies is hindered by frequent personnel changes and the fluctuating human, financial and logistical resources allocated to diaspora engagement.
- **Access to official information** on diaspora policies is often quite limited. The DGSE's page on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs currently lacks detailed information.
- **Perceptions of approach to the diaspora:** The perception amongst many in the diaspora is that the government's approach is one-way, designed to attract their funds and skills, rather than treat them as partners in national development. Although Senegal is one of the few countries to have established diaspora deputies in the National Assembly, progress is still needed to develop and implement policies that enable greater and balanced engagement across a wide spectrum of activities.

14 MTM i-Map Volet Migration et Développement – SENEGAL

15 Personal communication, ICMPD April 2020

16 MIGRATION AU SENEGAL PROFIL NATIONAL 2018, UPDATED 2019, FMM West Africa / ANSED, available at: https://rodakar.iom.int/sites/default/files/documents/Rapport_PM_S%C3%A9n%C3%A9gal_jan2019.pdf

17 Giulia Sinatti (2019) Return migration, entrepreneurship and development: Contrasting the economic growth perspective of Senegal's diaspora policy through a migrant-centred approach, *African Studies*, 78:4

18 <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/389303/politique/senegal-quinze-deputes-de-plus-diaspora/>. In order for these new MPs to be elected, eight new constituencies have been created: two in Europe, one in the Americas, one in Asia and the Middle East, and four others in North, West, Central and Southern Africa. See <http://www.assemblee-nationale.sn/deputes-de-l-hemicycle-1-all.xml> for more information

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Programme of Support for Solidarity Initiatives for Development – PAISD¹⁹

HUMAN CAPITAL + DATA

PAISD is a mechanism aiming to mobilise and support solidarity actions and economic initiatives from the Senegalese diaspora in France, Belgium, Spain and Italy for the benefit of Senegal.

The programme provides funding of up to 80% for local development activities carried out by diaspora associations in Senegal. It also conducts studies related to investment opportunities, and mobilises highly qualified expertise and youth from the diaspora for short-term missions in Senegal in education, agribusiness, health, environment, communications and tourism.

INVESTMENT

Fund in Support of the Investment of Senegalese Abroad (FAISE)²⁰

FAISE was created in June 2008 and aims to promote investments by Senegalese abroad who have financial resources and wish to invest in Senegal's national development. FAISE operates two funds: the Fund for Senegalese Abroad (FSE) to finance diaspora projects in Senegal, and the Fund for Women in the Diaspora (FFD), which promotes women entrepreneurship in host countries.

PROPERTY & BONDS

The Housing Bank of Senegal (Banque de l'Habitat du Sénégal, BHS) Diaspora Bond²¹

BHS has promoted real estate investments for the diaspora through several actions, principally concerning collection, monetary transfers and access to credit.²² It has also launched a Diaspora Bond with the aim of raising 20 Billion XOF.²³

¹⁹ <https://paisd.sn/>

²⁰ <http://faise.sn/>

²¹ <https://www.bhs.sn/>

²² https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/33213/INTERACT_RR_2014%2016_.pdf;sequence=1

²³ <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/778363/economie/senegal-la-banque-de-lhabitat-lance-ses-diaspora-bonds/> . The operation offers a remuneration of 6.25% per annum over a period of 5 years. The price of the bond is 10 000 XOF. The repayment of the invested capital will be gradual with a 2-year grace period and the annual interest of 6.25% will be paid semi-annually

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

Senegal is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Senegal as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) www.ecowas.int

Senegal is a member of the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) and of the WAEMU (Commission of the West African Economic and Monetary Union) and of the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS).

Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) <http://www.cen-sad.org/>

Senegal is fully integrated into all the key organisations of the international community. It is a member of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

- **National institutions**
 - At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad (*Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur, MAESE*) <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.sn/>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad's mission is to prepare and implement the foreign policies of Senegal defined by the President of the Republic, and the management and support of Senegalese living abroad.²⁴

- At sub-ministerial level

Directorate-General for Senegalese Abroad (*Directorat Générale des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur, DGSE*)

The DGSE- is the lead agency for diaspora engagement within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad, and works to develop diaspora engagement policies and programmes. It comprises two Directorates, the Direction de l'Assistance et de la Promotion des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur (DAPSE), which focuses on diaspora engagement, and social protection for the diaspora; and the Direction de l'Appui à l'Investissement et aux Projets (DAIP) which focuses on supporting and attracting diaspora investments and business.²⁵ <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.sn/>

²⁴ <https://www.sec.gouv.sn/d%C3%A9cret-n%C2%B0-2019-806-du-17-avril-2019-relatif-aux-attributions-du-secr%C3%A9taire-detat-aupr%C3%A8s-du-ministre>

²⁵ <https://www.sec.gouv.sn/monsieur-amadou-ba>

Programme of Support for Solidarity Initiatives for Development – PAISD <https://paisd.sn/>

PAISD falls under DAPSE and is a mechanism aiming to mobilise and support solidarity actions and economic initiatives from the Senegalese diaspora in France, Belgium, Spain and Italy for the benefit of Senegal (see Spotlight section for more detail).

Fund in Support of the Investment of Senegalese Abroad (FAISE) <http://faise.sn/>

FAISE, created in June 2008, aims to promote productive investments by Senegalese abroad who have financial resources and wish to develop projects in Senegal (see Spotlight section for more detail)

High Council of Senegalese Abroad <https://www.facebook.com/groups/108772815751/>

An advisory body supporting the DAPSE's work, the High Council of Senegalese Abroad is responsible for initiating, coordinating and implementing government policies aimed at ensuring the well-being of Senegalese abroad and represents diaspora associations around the world.

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association pour le Développement par l'Innovation Sociale au Sénégal (ADISS) France <http://www.adiss.fr/qui-sommes-nous>

Development activities

ADISS encourages the creation of high-impact enterprises in Senegal, by supporting the design of projects and the fundraising. It aims to create economic actions within the framework of Social Innovation through a collaborative platform.

La Coordinadora de les Associacions Senegaleses de Catalunya (CASC) Barcelona <https://catsen.org/fr/>

Development activities

CASC's mission is to be a channel for communication and management for formal and informal Senegalese organisations in order to strengthen their participation in policies and interventions within the framework of development cooperation with Senegal. It runs a range of development projects in Senegal. CASC also works to encourage the individual and collective promotion of Senegalese residents in Catalonia and facilitate their social inclusion.

La Fédération des Sénégalais de la Diaspora (FSD) http://www.sendiaspora.com/?fbclid=IwAR2K0-Zj0n-JGjm4EBIEeRhE5X-SW_GaWHfHKkdsqOfCXALVkrZacjJZ8zd8

Development activities

FSD is a social platform for bringing together Senegalese in the diaspora to scale-up and share economic and social capacities, work to defend migrants' rights, and facilitate exchanges between the diaspora and the authorities of the host countries and those of Senegal.

FSD provides training tools for improved social and economic integration of migrants in host countries or upon their return to Senegal and also works to facilitate access of migrants and families to platforms for pooling and optimisation of insurance, investment and savings funds.

Sunugal Italy <https://www.sunugal.it/>

Development activities

Sunugal is a socio-cultural association created on the initiative of a group of foreign citizens, mostly Senegalese and Italian, with the aim of promoting exchange initiatives between the two countries. It acts as a liaison network between immigrants in Italy and families in Senegal. Sunugal's activities can be grouped by country of intervention:

- **Italy:** dissemination of information on the Global South and migration to the wider public; support of the immigrant population;
- **Senegal:** promoting exchange initiatives between countries in the South and Global North; supporting the socio-economic development of the areas of origin of immigrants in Italy.

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