

FINAL REPORT

SENEGAL: Country Gender Profile

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Inter Africa Network for Women, Media, Gender Equity and Development (FAMEDEV)

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Senegal

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Definitions

List of Abbreviations

ACDI	Agence Canadienne pour le Développement International/
CIDA	Canadian Agency for International Development
AFDS	Agence du Fonds de Développement Social/ Agency for Social Development
AFJS	Association des Femmes Juristes Sénégalaises/ Association of Women Lawyers
AGR	Activité Génératrice de Revenus/ Income Generating Activities
ARV	Anti rétroviraux/ Anti Retro Virals
IFD	Intégration de la Femme dans le Développement/ Integration of Women in Development
IEC	Information Education and Communication
FENU	Fonds d'Equipement des Nations Unies/ United Nations Equipment Fund
PNUD	Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement/
UNDP	United Nations Development Fund
PDRH	Projet de Développement des Ressources Humaines/ Human Resources Development Project
SCOFI	Scolarisation des Filles/Girls Education
PANAF	Plan d'Action National de la Femme/National Action Plan for women
PAGPF	Projet d'Appui aux Groupements de Promotion Féminine/ Project Support for the Promotion of Women's Groups
OIT	Organisation Internationale du Travail/
ILO	International Labour Organisation
COSEF	Conseil Sénégalais des Femmes/ Senegalese Womens Council
FNGPF	Fédération Nationale des Groupements de Promotion Féminine/ National Federation of Women's Groups
FAFS	Fédération des Associations Féminines du Sénégal/ Federation of Women's Associations in Senegal
DSRP	Document de Stratégie de Réduction de la Pauvreté/
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
VIH/SIDA	Virus de l'Immuno-déficience Humaine /Syndrome Immuno Déficitaire
HIV/AIDS	Acquis/ Human Immuno Deficiency Virus/Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
CEDEF/ CEDAW	Convention pour l'Elimination de toutes les Formes de Discrimination à l'Egard des Femmes/ Convention For the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
FAMEDEV	Inter Africa Network For Women, Media, Gender Equity and Development
IFJ	International Federation of Journalists
PLCP	Projet de Lutte Contre la Pauvreté/ Project for the Fight Against Poverty
PAREP	Projet d'Appui à la Réduction de la Pauvreté/ Project Support For Poverty Reduction
SNEEG	Stratégie Nationale pour l'Egalité et l'Equité de Genre/ National Strategy for Gender Equality and Equity
PCF	Projet Crédit pour les Femmes/ Credit Project for women
OMS	Organisation Mondiale pour la Santé/
WHO	World Health Organisation
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund/

	United Nations Childrens Fund
FNUAP	Fonds des Nations Unies pour la Population/
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
CENAF	Centre Nationale d'Assistance et de Formation pour la Femme/ National Centre for Assistance and Training for women
CEDAF	Centre Départemental d'Assistance et de Formation pour la Femme/ Departmental Centre for Assistance and Training for Women
TIC	Technologie de l'Information et de la Communication/
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
BAD	Banque Africaine de Développement/
AfDB	African Development Bank
CLVF	Comité de Lutte contre les Violences faites aux Femmes/ Committee for the Fight Against Violence Against women
FAD	Fonds Africain de Développement/ African Development Fund
GED	Genre et Développement/
GAD	Gender and Development
MFEF	Ministère de la Femme de l'Enfant et de la Famille/ Ministry of women, children and the family
UNIFEM	United Nations Fund for Women
CECI	Centre d'Etudes et de Coopération Internationale/ International Centre for Research and International Cooperation
CONGAD	Conseil des ONG d'Appui au Développement/ Council for Non Governmental Organisations in support of Development
SAGA	Social And Gender Analysis
CRDI/IDR	Centre de Recherches pour le Développement International/ International Research and Development Centre
C	
REGECA	Réseau Genre et Créativité en Afrique/ Network for Gender and Creativity in Africa
PAPA	Projet d'Appui au Plan d'Action en Education non formelle/ Project support for National Plan of Action for Non Formal Education
PAPF	Projet d'Alphabétisation Priorité Femmes/ Project for Priority to Women's Literacy
PADEN	Projet d'Alphabétisation des Elus locaux et Notables/ Literacy project for Locally elected personalities
PAIS	Projet d'Alphabétisation Intensive du Sénégal/ Intensive Literacy Project for Senegal
ADEF	Association pour le Développement de l'Education et de la Formation/ Association for the Development of Education and Training
PFD	Population, Femme et Développement/ Population, Women and Development
SMI/PF	Santé Maternelle et Infantile / Planification Familiale Maternal and Child Health/Family Planning
ONG	Organisation Non Gouvernementale/
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
SAED	Société d'Aménagement et d'Exploitation des Terres du Delta du Fleuve Sénégal et de la Falémé/ Society for the treatment and allocation of Land in the Senegalese River Basin
GIE	Groupement d'Intérêt Economique/ Economic Interest Group
PNVA	Programme National de Vulgarisation Agricole/ National programme for the promotion of Agriculture

MFEF	Ministère de la Femme, de l'Enfant et de la Famille Ministry of Women, children and the Family
ACDI	Agence Canadienne pour le Développement International Canadian Agency for International Development
PLCP	Projet de Lutte contre la Pauvreté /Project for the fight against poverty
PAREP	Projet d'Appui à la Réduction de la Pauvreté/Project for support for poverty reduction
AFDS	Agence du Fonds de Développement Social/Agency for Social development
CENAF	Centre National d'Assistance et de Formation pour la Femme National centre for assistance and training of women
CEDAF	Centre Départemental d'Assistance et de Formation pour la Femme Departmental centre for assistance and training of women
CRDI /IDR C	Centre de Recherches pour le Développement International International Research and Development Centre

1. Basic Profile

1-1 Socio-Economic Profile

Economic Indicators source 1)

GNI/Capita (US\$)	Growth rate of real GDP	GDP Implicit deflator	Gini index	Aid/GNI
630(04)	6.2%(05)	2.5%(05)	NA	NA
450(00)	6.2%(04)	1.9%(04)		
500(95)	3.0%(00)	3.3%(03)		
660(90)				

Demographic Indicators source 1)

Total (Thousands)	% of female population	% of urban population	Population growth rate	Total Fertility Rate	Life Expectancy*	
					Male	Female
11,386(04)	51%(04)	49.2%(99)	2.4%(92-02)	4.8(04)	54(00)	56(00)
10,343(00)	51%(00)			5.3(00)	55(04)	57(04)

Public Sector Expenditure to sectors source 1)

Health	Education	Social Welfare	Defence	Others
5.1%(2003)	4.0%(04)	NA	1.5%(05)	NA

Industry/GDP source 1)

	Agriculture	Industry	Service
2005	17.7%	19.7%	63.3%

Labour Indicators source 2)

M/F	Total No.	Unemployment Rate	Minimum wage	Female	% of total	Unemployment Rate	Minimum wage
		57.8%(90-94)urban	41,000FCFA		63.1 (90)	42%	NA
		53.5%(90-94)rural					

Proportion of workers source 3)

male	Agriculture	Industry	Service	Female	Agriculture	Industry	Service
	NA	NA	87.1(95)		73.5%(90-94)	NA	63.1(95)

Women in decision-making source 4)

	Member of parliament	Ministries	Deputy	Managers	Technicians
2006	23	7	NA	NA	NA
2006	19%	22.5%			

Ratification and signature of international law for women

The African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights	1981
The United Nations Convention on the elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against women (CEDAW), ratified without reservation on 5th February 1985, enforced on 5th March 1985	1985
The African charter on the Rights and welfare of the Child adopted by the Organisation of African Unity in 1990	1990

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990)	1990
The optional protocol on the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women(CEDEF/CEDAW), ratified on 10 June 2000	2000
The protocol to the African charter on Human and peoples rights, relative to the rights of women, adopted at Maputo in July 2003 and which entered into force in November 2005	2003 2005

Source : 1) World Bank 2006, 2) Demographic and Health Surveys, 1990-1994 WHO, 3) : ILO 2003-2004 Key indicators of Labour Market 2003, 4) World Bank Gender Data 2006

1-2 Health Profile

Expansion of health service source 1)

No. of physicians (per 1,000 people)	No. of Hospital Beds (per 1,000 people)	Public expenditure on health* (% of GDP)
0.06 (2004)	NA	10%(2005)

Child Health source 1)

Mortality Rate			% of the vaccinated (1-year-old children)			
	Infant (per1,000)	Under-5 (per1,000)	BCG	DPT	Polio	Measles
2004	141 male 132 female	127	92%	87%	73%	57%

Family planning source 1) EDS2005

Contraceptive prevalence rate	Births attendance rate	Maternal mortality rate (per100,000)	Age at first marriage (years old)	Total fertility rate	% age 15-49	Women (No. of age15-49)
10.5%(90-04)	58 % (90-04)	690(90-04)	20(90-04)	4.8(90-04)	0.7 (2005)	0.9 (2005)

Nutrition source 1)

% of infants with low birth weight	Oral re-hydration therapy use rate
16% (1990)	NA

Community health service

Access to safe water		Access to adequate sanitation	
urban	rural	urban	Rural
NA	NA	NA	NA

1-3 Education Profile

Commitment to Education source 2)

Education system (years)	
Compulsory	Primary
6(04)	6(04)

Public expenditure on education (as % of)	
GNP	Gov. expenditure

Adult literacy rate source 2)

	Total	Male	Female
1990	NA	(age 15-24) 50%	(age15-24) 30%
2000		41%	28.5%

Enrolment Ratio source 2)

Primary education (Net enrolment ratio)		
	Male	Female
2004	68%	64%

Secondary education (Gross enrolment ratio)		
	Male	Female
2004	22%	16%

Higher education (Gross enrolment ratio)		
	Male	Female
	NA	NA

Female Ratio of Higher Education source 2)

	Education	Agriculture	Engineering and Technology	Medicine and Natural sciences
	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source 1) WHO: 'World Health Statistics 2006' and 'The World Health Report, 2006 Edition', 2) Country Profiles for Population and Reproductive Health, Policy Developments and Indicators 2005, produced jointly by UNFPA and Population Reference Bureau
World Bank Gender Data

2. General Situation of Women and Government Policy on Gender

2-1. General Situation of Women in Senegal

General Situation of Women in Senegal

- 1) Senegal like most other countries, in this situation, has ratified all the instruments and made commitments. In fact, the political leaders have, since the attainment of independence, put in place a policy for the promotion of women. This policy is articulated within the framework of equal rights for all. In 2001 Senegal voted a new constitution, which made provision for the guarantee for gender equity and equality, right to access to land, land tenure, education, employment, health, exercise of power, public service, etc and rejected all forms of injustice, inequality or discrimination between all citizens regardless of sex.
- 2) Presently, in Senegal, women occupy certain important positions, but not at an acceptable level in terms of numbers compared with men.

Since 1946, the international community had often put the issue of women on the agendas of international meetings and conferences. This led to the adoption, ratification of a good number of commitments and resolutions in favour of the protection or the promotion of women and children. Moreover, the promotion of women constitutes a preoccupation for the international community as a factor for sustainable development since the adoption of the declaration of the Beijing Plan of Action. This pre-occupation heightened since the Millennium summit, organised by the United Nations, instituted gender equity and equality as a development objective in all countries. The governments were therefore committed to translate the recommendations into concrete actions, in order to create an environment conducive for the achievement of equality between men and women.

Even though women constitute 52% of the population, African women are confronted with enormous problems at all levels notably:

- Illiteracy
- High maternal mortality rates
- Excessive work load
- Domestic violence and all sorts of marginalisation

The fact that women were marginalised in economic and social development has today made them the section of society that is worst affected by poverty.

Under this situation, Senegal like most other countries, has ratified all the instruments and made commitments. In fact, the political leaders have since the attainment of independence, put in place a policy for the promotion of women. This policy is articulated within the framework of equal rights for all. In 2001 Senegal voted a new constitution, which made provision for the guarantee for gender equity and equality, right to access to land, land tenure, education, employment, health, exercise of power, public service, etc and rejected all forms of injustice, inequality or discrimination between all citizens regardless of sex.

In order to achieve this objective, the Senegalese authorities took certain number of measures, notably in the areas of women's access to positions of management and decision-making. At present, in Senegal, women occupy certain important positions, but not at an acceptable level in terms of numbers compared with men. The following statistics are rather explicit:

- Current government: 9 women ministers out of 40, 1 minister of state, or 22, 5 % (this figure is now at 7 since the resignation of two women ministers of AJ-PADS (And Jef - Partie Africaine Pour la Democratie et Socialisme) from the government, after the presidential election of February 25, 2007).
- Advisers of the president of the republic: 20 % of women;
- Advisers of the prime minister: 26% of women

- National assembly: 23 women parliamentarians out of 120 which is 19%
- Economic and social affairs council of the republic: 31 women out of 110 which is 28% of women
- Legislature: 15% of higher positions of responsibility are occupied by women
- Ambassadors: 3 women out of 35, which is 8.57%
- Territorial command: 1 woman as assistant governor, 1 woman as prefect, 1 woman as assistant prefect, out of a potential of 101 positions in the governance and prefecture
- Regional councils: 470 regional advisers out of which are 61 women that is 14.5%; we note one female president of the regional council out of 11, making 9.09%.
- Municipal councils: 1133 women out of 4216 advisers, that is 27% and 6 women mayors out of 103, that is 5.8%
- Rural councils: 9092 advisers out of which 1043 are women , that is 11.3% ; one woman is president of rural council, making 0.31%, this constitutes the weakest representation of women in decision making positions

In spite of the political pluralism which calls for a wider participation of actors and consideration for diversity, at the moment decision making positions are to a large extent dominated by men. Besides even when they are elected, the women are not always present when decisions are being taken and when they are present, they speak only if they are asked to. For example: at Boulel, a man who is not a member of the rural council came to represent his wife, at Nganda, during an important meeting on budgeting, the women members of the council were not present at the meeting. According to the president, the women had travelled, but for the president of the GPF (Groupements de Promotion Feminine), it was because the women were not informed about the meeting. In the department of Kébémér in Thieppe, where the women are the only lively force of the village, the men having emigrated, the rural council is in the hands of the old men. Nevertheless development work to be carried out in this rural community will depend essentially on women and they are not the interlocutors within the rural council. They are only four women "co-opted" by the men.-Village Headship: out of 14000 villages, 3 are headed by women.

It should be noted that women do not have significant responsibilities and are only assigned specific questions on social affairs. Their participation in the management of power is only symbolic.

With the participatory approach and community management, a certain number of infrastructures are administered by a management committee for water and sanitation. As regards the management of water, it was planned to systematically confide the post of treasurer to the women, but this is far from being achieved in almost all the rural communities. As an illustration, on 60 drillings localized in the department of Kaffrine, 52 have no woman. Of the 8 management committees examined, there is on average 1 to 3 women out of 12 members per committee and nobody occupies a key position, they are rather relegated to the management of the fountains. The Committees are administered by the president, the treasurer and the secretary, who are always men.

From the point of view of administrative jobs, military and paramilitary bodies which until recently were exclusively reserved for men are now opened to women with effect from this year. It is the same case for the Gendarmes and the Customs.

With regards the promotion of social welfare, a major innovation for the application of parity is the double initiative of the government to adopt a law for:

- Health coverage by a salaried woman of her husband and children
- Equal treatment for taxes for men and women

With regards the promotion and protection of the human rights of women and girls, Senegal has ratified all international and regional conventions and instruments

- The African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights(1981)
- The United Nations Convention on the elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against women (CEDAW), ratified without reservation on 5th February 1985, enforced on 5th March 1985
- The African charter on the Rights and welfare of the Child adopted by the Organisation of African Unity in 1990
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990)
- The optional protocol on the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDEF/CEDAW), ratified on 10 June 2000
- The protocol to the African charter on Human and peoples rights, relative to the rights of women, adopted at Maputo in July 2003 and which entered into force in November 2005

The sensitization of the actors charged with the application of the aforementioned rights rests essentially on the formulation and implementation of training modules which should be integrated more and more into the training programmes of Schools (example the National School of Administration of Dakar). Besides, some close work is done by consultative organs and the Association of the Jurists in Senegal in the field of the production of texts and laws in favour of the application of gender.

2-2. Government Policy on Gender

Government Policy on Gender

The government of Senegal has been doing a lot in the area of gender. It started with the integration of gender in government policies and ensuring that ministries integrate gender in their activities. Presently there is the National Plan of Action for Women (PANAF) by the ministry of women, children and the family. Other ministries such as the one responsible for literacy and the promotion of national languages, the ministry of public health and social action, the ministry of technical education and vocational training among others have all put in place strategies or policy documents on gender. Senegal manifested its commitment by the implementation of adequate legislative and legal measures.

In the 70s, Senegal opted for an approach of integration of women in development (WID) which is, still perceptible. In the mid 80s, the country made some reflections and undertook studies on women in development and its limitations. It then introduced the Gender And Development approach (GAD) in its strategies and methodology. At present, many development partners and national institutions integrate gender issues in their analysis.

In this regard, political orientations of different ministries retained gender as a strategic angle of intervention. Besides there exists the National Action Plan for Women (PANAF), developed under the aegis of the Ministry of Women, Children and the Family (MFEF), one can quote the policy strategy document of the Ministry charged with literacy and with the promotion of national languages, that of the ministry of public health and social action as well as that of the ministry of technical education and vocational training.

The commitment of Senegal, through the solemn declaration on equality among men and women in Africa, was translated on one hand, by the implementation of adequate legislative and legal measures.

- Firm political will be manifested by the ratification without reservation in 1985 of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- The ratification of the additional protocol to CEDAW/CEDEF by law on June 10th 2000
- The ratification (by law on December 2, 2004) of the protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights relative to the rights of women, adopted in Maputo in July 2003 and which entered into force in November 2005.
- The new constitution 2001 guarantees equity and equality between the sexes in article 7 of its preamble, in access to acquire and to own land, to education, to employment, determination of salaries and taxes, provided in articles 15-22 and 25 respectively
- The Family Code takes into account our constitution which not only, puts the principle of the equality of all individuals before the law, but adds that in case of violation of the principle of equality among men and women, the cancellation of the act which is the cause of it constitutes normal penalty.

Within the framework of the implementation of the commitments of the Government, one could, among others, quote as examples some actions carried out by the aforementioned structures:

- The institutionalization of national fifteen days of activism for women and the grand prize of the head of state for the promotion of Senegalese women (decree 90-269 of March 10, 1980 and signed n ° 01434 / MDS / CAB of November 13, 1989 modified in 1991 and 1998). Two major events which retained as its theme of awareness and sensitization, for the 2006 edition, "Stop the violence inflicted on women and girls";
- The government played a fundamental role of facilitation for the emergence of independent organizations in order to spearhead the promotion of women by contributing to the mobilization of resources with the aim of implementing the National Plan of Action for Women (PANAF). The PANAF adopted by the government seeks to accelerate the implementation of the strategies to strengthen women's involvement at all levels and to

eliminate all forms of discrimination toward women. In order to facilitate the implementation of PANAF, six priority areas have been targeted:

- a. The economic promotion of women by strengthening their organisational and entrepreneurial capacities, the installation of equipment designed to lighten household chores, the expansion of employment opportunities and access to decision-making;
- b. Increasing the rate of school enrolment of girls, raising the level of education and training for women, and promoting a gender sensitive attitude through better information;
- c. Improving women's health with emphasis on programs supplementing those provided by the ministry of health;
- d. Improving the legal, social and political status of women;
- e. Reinforcing the advocacy and financing agencies targeting activities initiated by women and,
- f. Taking greater account of the needs and potential of women in national development policies and programs.

It is as a result of the National Action Plan for Women that a National Strategy for Gender Equality and Equity (SNEEG) was developed for the period 2005-2015 aimed at allowing the authorities to reaffirm their commitment to build a Senegal without discrimination, where all the men and the women will have the same opportunities to contribute to its development and to enjoy, in the same way, benefits accrued from this development.

The Ministry responsible for Women, the Family, Social Development and Female Entrepreneurship developed and implemented a vast training program aimed at preparing the political and administrative authorities in the integration of gender in development policies, programmes and projects.

Violence Against women and Children, particularly the Girl Child:

Domestic violence, including spousal abuse, is said to be a widespread problem. There is no empirical data to show the magnitude of the problem but several women's groups and the local NGO Committee to Combat Violence against Women (CLVF) reported a rise in cases of violence against women during 2005. Violence against women is against the law, but the law is not implemented in practice. The law criminalizes assaults and provides for a punishment of one to five years in prison and a fine. If the victim is a woman, the prison term and fine are both increased. Domestic violence that causes lasting injuries is punishable with a prison sentence of 10 to 20 years, and if an act of domestic violence causes death, the law prescribes life imprisonment. There have been increasing reports of violence between co wives in polygamous marriages.

As in most countries in West Africa, Police usually do not intervene in domestic disputes, and most persons are reluctant to go outside the family for redress. Some groups felt that the harsh sentences under the law caused judges to require higher burdens of proof before finding potential offenders guilty, resulting in fewer total convictions for domestic violence. The CLVF criticized the failure of some judges to apply the law. There were no statistics available on the number of abusers prosecuted under the law.

In 2005 women in several cities held rallies and marches to protest against violence against women. For example, hundreds of women took to the streets in Ziguinchor to protest the August 25 beating of Henriette Tine by her husband, a repeated offender. Tine's husband was charged and the case was pending.

Also in August the same year an influential Arabic teacher in Mbour severely beat his brother's pregnant wife in a succession dispute. After two weeks in prison, he was prosecuted and sentenced to pay a fine of \$40 (20,000 CFAF).

While local NGOs that assisted domestic violence victims and other women's rights groups viewed the antiviolenace laws as important, they criticized the government's failure to permit associations to bring suit on behalf of victims. The Ministry of Women, Family, Social Development, and Women's Entrepreneurship worked with several NGOs in an attempt to curb domestic violence. In May 2005 the city of Tambacounda inaugurated a program to fight violence against women.

Rape, including spousal rape, is also a problem associated with domestic violence. This is a controversial issue in many countries in Africa. Most people believe that there is no such thing as spousal rape because the wife should be readily accessible and available to the husband. . The law prohibits rape, but not spousal rape; Sentences for rape range from 5 to 10 years' imprisonment, and rapes resulting in death qualify for life imprisonment. It is always almost impossible for victims to provide judges with sufficient proof to merit convictions. There is no system in place formally to collect statistics on the extent of rape or convictions.

Due to social pressures and fear of embarrassment, incest remains taboo and often goes unreported and unpunished. The problem of incest is compounded by lack of public support and shelters to protect and assist vulnerable women, including single mothers and victims of domestic violence. As a result, many are unable to flee or remove their children from abusive family members.

It is estimated that Female Genital Mutilation/ Cutting, commonly known as FGM/C is practised in thousands of villages throughout the country. In June 2004 the minister of family claimed that almost all women in the country's northern Fouta region were FGM victims, as were 60 to 70 percent of women in the south and southeast. Sealing, one of the most extreme and dangerous forms of FGM, is sometimes practiced by the Toucouleur, Mandinka, Soninke, and Bambara ethnic groups, particularly in rural areas. Some girls were as young as one year old when FGM was performed on them.

FGM is a criminal offense under the law, carrying a sentence of six months' to five years' imprisonment for those directly practicing FGM, or ordering it to be carried out on a third person. The government prosecuted those caught engaging in the practice and fought to end FGM by collaborating with Tostan and other groups to educate people about the inherent dangers. During 2005, 120 villages renounced the use of FGM. According to the Ministry of Women, Family, Social Development, and Women's Entrepreneurship, 1,679 out of an estimated 5,000 communities have formally abandoned the practice. Nevertheless, many people still practiced FGM openly and with impunity.

Children

The government was somewhat committed to children's rights and welfare. The Ministry of Women's Affairs, Family, Social Development, and Women's Entrepreneurship is responsible for promoting children's welfare and is assisted by the health, education, and labor ministries.

The law provides for free education, and education is compulsory for children ages six to 16; however, many children do not attend school due to lack of resources or available facilities. Students must pay for their own books, uniforms, and other school supplies. Due to the efforts of the government, NGOs, and international donors, primary school enrolment reached 82.5 percent in 2005.

The highest level of education attained by most children is elementary school. The middle school enrolment rate was 31.9 percent, and the secondary school enrolment rate was 10.9 percent. In the 2005/ 06 academic year, more girls than boys were enrolled in elementary school for the first

time ever.

The government took steps to provide religious education classes in the formal school system to provide an alternative to parents sending their children to Koranic schools, where trafficking in the form of forced begging often occurred. The government also established a program to provide education and social services to 11,000 at risk children.

Child abuse is reported to be common. One human rights organization noted that during the month of May 2005, 16 cases of child abuse were reported, involving children between the ages of 6 and 16.

The law punishes sexual abuse of children with five to 10 years' imprisonment. If the offender is a family member, the punishment is 10 years' imprisonment. Any offence against the decency of a child is punishable by imprisonment for two to five years and in some aggravated cases up to 10 years' imprisonment. Procuring a minor for prostitution is punishable by imprisonment for two to five years' imprisonment and a fine of between \$575 (300,000 CFAF) and \$7,600 (four million CFAF).

There are periodic reports of child rape, paedophilia, molestations and impregnation of young people especially children. There are cases that go un-reported but there have also been cases in which the offenders are prosecuted and imprisoned or fined according to the offence. The press also reported rapes of handicapped persons, physically disabled persons and mentally disabled person.

Women's rights NGOs say that of all cases of violence committed against girls, paternal incest cases were the fastest growing type of violence. For example, in July 2005, a man with multiple wives and six children was arrested for having sexual relations with his daughter for five years. He admitted to the charges after his daughter reported him; the case was pending at year's end.

WID/GAD related laws and regulations

Laws and regulations	Date	Content
Ratification without reservation in 1985 of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	1985	
The ratification of the additional protocol to CEDAW/CEDEF by law on June 10th 2000	2000	The elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.
The ratification (by law on December 2, 2004) of the protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights relative to the rights of women, adopted in Maputo in July 2003 and which entered into force in November 2005.	2004 2005	The Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa
The new constitution 2001 guarantees equity and equality between the sexes in article 7 of its preamble, in access to acquire and to own land, to education, to employment, determination of salaries and taxes, provided in articles 15-22 and 25 respectively	2001	Gender equity provisions
The Family Code takes into account our constitution which not only, puts the principle of the equality of all individuals before the law, but adds that in case of violation of the principle of equality among men and women, the cancellation of the act which is the cause of it, constitutes normal penalty.		
<u>National Inter-professional Collective Agreement 27/05/1982</u> This collective agreement has the following provisions of interest to women and employment:		Collective bargaining

<p>a. Article 26 provides compensation for maternity leave. During her maternity leaves, a woman working in a company is indemnified according to the terms and conditions set out by laws and rules in force.</p> <p>b. Article 36 sets out the conditions of implementation of the “equal work equal pay” principle for women and the young people. For equal conditions of work, of professional qualification and output, the salary shall be equal for all the workers irrespective of origin, age, sex and status, according to the following terms:</p> <p>i) The salary of every worker is determined according to the employment he/she occupies in the company or the firm.</p> <p>ii) Salaries are set according to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time: at hour, day or month. • Output: at task or on piece rate. <p>c. Article 53 covers women’s work. The particular conditions of work for women are set in accordance with the provisions of the laws and regulations in force. Enterprises and firms leaders have the obligation to undertake all necessary measures to avoid pregnant women being jostled both in cloakrooms and staff exits.</p>		
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Source: ILO e.quality@work: an information data base of ILO

2-3 National Machinery

The Ministry responsible for Women, the Family, Social Development and Female Entrepreneurship established in 1990

The Government of Senegal, has been since very early convinced that without the efficient involvement of the women in the process of development, it could not succeed with its different policies and plans of development. Senegal signed and ratified all treaties and conventions related to the abolition of all forms of discrimination against women and the girl child. But actually, the problem persists of changing mentalities. In spite of the adoption of the laws in favour of women, their application is slow and is facing by deep resistance among some sections of the population especially those who have to apply them.

However, the government took concrete measures to promote the women's conditions. An exclusive ministry of "The Family, Women and National Solidarity" was set up initially to improve women's status and to grant direct subsidies to the women's organizations at the grass roots level.

The Ministry has had many titles such as :

Secretariat d'état à la promotion humaine, The state secretariat for human promotion, Ministère de la Femme, de l'Enfant et de la Famille ; Ministry for Women, Children and the Family,

Ministère du développement social, ministry for social development, Ministère de la femme, de l'enfant, de la famille et du développement social ; ministry for women, children, the family and social development and currently it is called Ministère de la Femme, de la Famille, du Développement social et de l'Entreprenariat féminin ; The Ministry for Women, the family, social development and female entrepreneurship.

The government also tried to promote national and departmental federations of women's associations. It instituted a line of credit of 1,879,440,000 CFA Francs, which is equivalent to US\$ 3,526,153 to fund some commercial and income generating enterprises owned by women in the whole country. The fund is managed through FDEA - Fund for the Development of Women's Enterprise in Africa. The government also created a ministry with a special section to promote women's small businesses: "the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises". All these administrative institutions work together with the ministry responsible for women's issues.

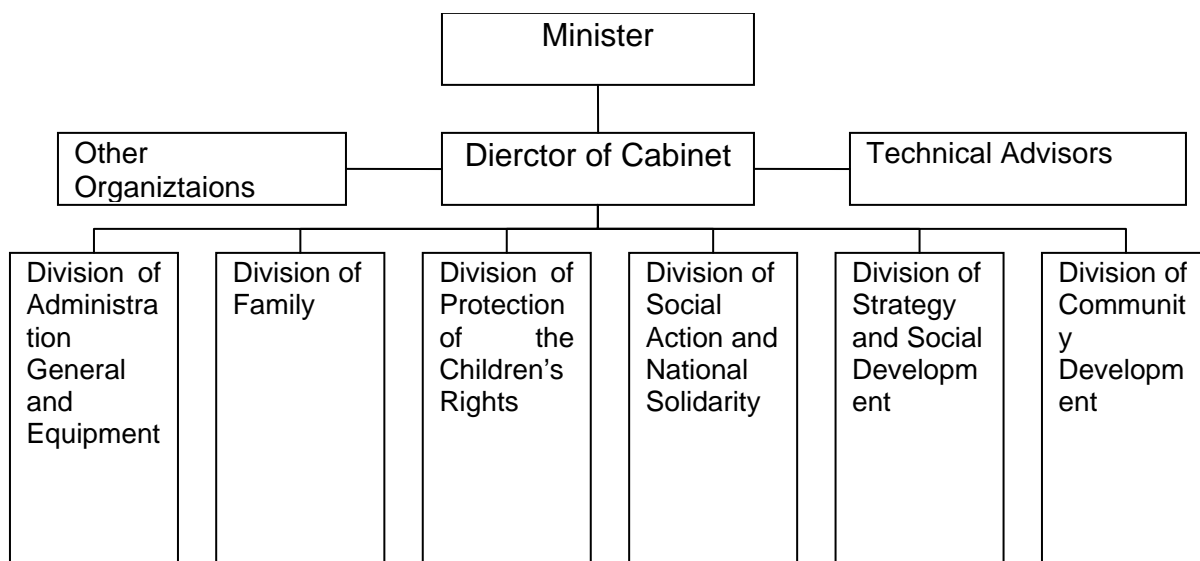
In addition the NGOs and Women's associations at the national, regional and local levels collaborated with the ministries concerned by women's issues in the elaboration of the "Five Year Plan of Action for Women". They also assured the follow-up and the assessment of that plan in addition to the evaluation of the plan of action for women - 1997 – 2001 pertaining to the Beijing 1995 Women's conference.

Within the context of consolidating actions to promote gender, the ministry in charge of the questions of equality between the sexes, in collaboration with the ministry of economy and finances, set up a working group on Gender and Budget, which reflects on the practical modalities of integration of the economy of health care and equality of sexes in macroeconomics. This was translated into the organisation of upgrading workshops on the transversal integration of gender in the national and local budgets, the effective inclusion of gender in the Document of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and gender analysis of the indicators of the PRSP. In the same vein, reflection on the medical coverage of husbands and children of salaried women, as well as the question of equality in fiscal treatment among men and women resulted to conclusions already submitted for the final validation by the government.

At the institutional level, the following structures and mechanisms were put in place by the Ministry responsible for women, the family and social development:

- 1 Department for the family
- 2 National consultative committee for the family
- 3 Credit Project for women
- 4 Project for capacity strengthening on gender
- 5 National centre for assistance and training for women, with membership at the level of the departments
- 6 The projects on fight against poverty which support the economic and social promotion of women (AFDS, PLCP and PAREP). But it is important to underline that the first two projects ended in 2005 and 2006 and now await their second phase.

Structure of Ministry of Women, Family, Social Development, and Women's Entrepreneurships (source: <http://www.famille.gouv.sn>)



One of the projects of the MFEF attempts to promote the physical and moral integrity of women, to enhance their access to the spheres of decision making and to set up a legislative framework favourable to the establishment of gender equality. This project entitled «Promotion of rights and strengthening of the authority of Senegalese women» is financed by ACDI and supported by CECI. It is implemented by means of a network of local women's organisations called "Siggil Jigèen". It started in 1993 and a consolidation phase was for a period of 5 years from August 1997 with an amount of 1.5 billion CFA Francs.

Added to this is a project for the establishment of an observatory for the rights of women and the children at the level of the ministry. It will be charged with the effective application of commitments made by Senegal at all the international conferences and the international legal instruments relative to the rights of women and children.

On the initiative of the Senegalese head of state, community infrastructure known as centres of assistance and training for women are being gradually set up since 2003 and allow addressing, in a holistic and integrated way, the problems of access to information, to promotion and to the protection of the fundamental rights of women among others.

In this regard, the program of implementation of the National Centre of Assistance and Training for Women (CENAF) and local Centres (CEDAF) aims to develop actions to raise the awareness level of women in the field of health prevention, to assure their technical training in order to introduce them to income generating activities and to provide them with legal advice

The donors constituted themselves into an informal network «Women and development". Dutch cooperation is particularly active and supports numerous initiatives of information and training in gender. Equally, the United Nations system, more specifically UNDP, UNIFEM and the ILO, contribute tremendous information in this domain. Also, the European Union intervention strategy for the management of natural resources includes gender aspects in the analysis of the programme cycle. One can also quote as examples institutions engaged in "Gender and Development": the CONGAD, British Council, Friedrich Ebert foundation, IDEP, IDRC, OXFAM/UK, etc. Mention should also be made of SAGA, the Social and Gender Analysis programme of the Institute for Economic Development/World Bank.

This training program in social analysis and gender depends heavily on the philosophy of the National Programmes of Popularisation of Agriculture (PNVA), financed by the World Bank during the last twenty years in various African countries. The SAGA programme raised contradictions and differences between the contents of the popularisation packages and the expectations and the needs of the producers and more particularly the women. Therefore the SAGA training programme aims to put in coherence the social reality and the production of the men and women farmers with the content, methods and tools of popularization. A training of trainers' workshop for Burkina-Faso, Guinea, Mauritania and Senegal was organized in May, 1996 in Ouagadougou (Burkina-Faso).

The subject of gender has generated interest in fundamental and applied research. Researchers and other development actors of several countries of West Africa have formed since 1993, a network named REGECA (Gender and Creativity Network in Africa). There's engaged discussion and reflection on how to adapt certain concepts of gender especially those that pose problems due to culture and tradition. Members of the network from the Ivory Coast and Burkina drafted case studies on this subject and Dutch cooperation was sought for their publication.

Within the framework of the implementation of the ten-year plan of family and social development, reforms are currently underway to support the promotion of women through the creation of a national Directorate for gender equity and equality an observatory for the rights of women and children and follow up tools and other indicators such as IDISA.

Evolution of the Presence of women in elective positions

Gradually women gained their places in elective positions, at first to the National Assembly, then in the rural and municipal councils, and finally in the regional councils and to the Senate.

Evolution of the presence of women in parliament

	Women	Total	% women
1957-1963	0	80	0
1963-1868	1	80	1.25
1968-1973	2	80	2.5
1973-1978	4	80	5
1978-1983	8	100	8
1983-1988	13	120	10.93
1988-1993	18	120	15
1993-1998	14	120	11.66
1998-2001	19	140	13.5
2001-2006	23	120	19.16

Evolution of the presence of women in municipal councils

	1984	1990	1996
Dakar	29	63	481
Diourbel	8	24	233
Fatick	16	38	49
Kaolack	7	33	39
Kolda	11	28	155
Louga	7	26	11
ST –Louis	15	47	19
Tambacounda	5	19	80
Thiès	19	54	44
Ziguinchor	9	24	22
Total	126	354	783

Evolution of the presence of women in rural councils

	1984	1990	1996
Dakar	2	9	64
Diourbel	14	45	880
Fatick	22	69	1012
Kaolack	26	42	1256
Kolda	19	50	1256
Louga	32	48	1216
ST –Louis	8	31	844
Tambacounda	11	39	924
Thiès	15	52	968
Ziguinchor	6	40	672
	155	425	9092

Even though one notes a significant progress of women in decision making positions, from 1984 to 1996; there still remains the need to reach out to the critical mass of women in order to influence decision making

Presence of women in local authorities

	women	Total	%
Rural Council	694	9092	7.64
Municipal	158	2442	6.45
Regional	61	470	12.07

This weak presence results in a poor capacity to influence any decision because women are invisible in decision making.

Presence of women in areas of authority and responsibilities

	Women	Total	%
President of rural council	2	320	0.62
President of regional council	1	10	10
Town Mayor	2	60	3.33
Mayor of a district	4	43	9.30
Total	9	433	2.07

3. Current Situation of Women by Sector

3-1 Education

Education

Fruitful efforts furnished by the government of Senegal (40 % of the national budget) ensure a dominating place for gender integration through the education of girls and their retention in school; this therefore has given rise to high level institutions of higher learning for girls more than boys.

For the realization of the objective of universal schooling, Senegal has put emphasis and target on girls. Actions undertaken can be summarised as access, retention and performance. In 2005, the rate of schooling of girls saw an evolution which increased from 72.3 % (in 2003) to 80.6 % (in 2005). Senegal is not far from achieving parity in elementary education. The proportion of girls in this figure is estimated at 48.3 % in 2004.

Among the institutional mechanisms created to accompany the process of motivation of girls, it is important to underline the setting up of a fund of support for women's leadership, through which initiatives for young upcoming girls such as that training in information technology are organised.

The situation in Senegal is characterized by profound disparities among men and women with regards access to resources and to services. The crude rate of schooling for girls in 1999 was of 63.4 against 70.3 % for boys. In spite of the ongoing campaigns for girls' education which contributed to this high rate, it is noticed that the more there is an evolution, the more the gap becomes wider. The reasons for girls dropping out are due to many factors among which are excessive work load at home, insufficient places, distance of schools from their homes, conditions of work, lack of gender friendly facilities such as toilets and other amenities. The low level of income of parents and the high cost of schooling, contribute to the fact that when parents are in financial difficulties, they sacrifice the girls schooling and allow the boys to continue. This is discrimination in favour of boys. The Senegalese Government only allocates 4% of the budget of the ministry of education to the expenses of investment and scholarly infrastructure; the result is a deficit of infrastructure and school facilities.

The rate of access to secondary level of education is 21.6%, and only 1% of the girls reach the higher degree against 4% of the boys. The literacy rates are effectively divergent in Senegal and depend to a large extent on the regions economic situation and the gender of the considered population. In certain regions because of religious considerations like Islam, young girls don't go to school and they get married at a very early age (12-14).

Cognisant of the importance for the population to go to school and to be literate, and following the progressive opening up to the private sector's involvement in development especially education, as prescribed by financial donor institutions notably the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, in the decade 1980 - 1990, the private sector came as a relief especially in the secondary and higher education levels. Consequently, school expenses increased at all levels. The children from rural populations, without adequate financial support became more and more marginalised. We also note that the best school infrastructure is concentrated in the urban or semi - urban areas where the conditions of life are better than in the villages. It is also in towns and in urban centres that we find the best teachers because they are well paid. Therefore the women and girls are heavily disadvantaged by the phenomenon of rural poverty.

Ten-year Education and Training Program (PDEF) 1999-2008

This program is the national guideline for education, and is aimed at:

- a. Enlarging access to education and training to all categories of the population.
- b. Improving quality and efficiency of the educative system at all levels.

- c. Setting the conditions for an efficient coordination on education policies, plans and programmes, and the rationalisation of resources utilisation and mobilization.
- d. One of the guiding principles for the program is "an education of quality for all: Equality and Equity".

The plan provides that: "The right to education implies an effective democratization of the educational system, which means that the State should undertake all measures to promote equality and equity throughout a positive discrimination in allocating resources, and paying particular attention to all Gender related issues ...". The programmes under the plan are implemented through several actions. For some of them, gender issues are clearly taken in consideration. Action 10, for instance, is about teachers' recruitment and training. In order to raise the representation of women in this category, in every training school (EFI), a pedagogical assistance body for women trainees will be established.

Literacy

The average literacy rate is in 2000 at 41 % for men against 28.5 % for the women. The rural women are to a large extent illiterate, in spite of the numerous programs which have been set up (DAD, PAPF, GRAZE, PLCP, PADEN, ADEF, World Vision, PFD (Population, women and development), SODEVA, and different GIE throughout the country) there still remains an enormous work to be done. The problem arises from the regular attendance of programmes by the women. In certain programs where they are required to spend 300 hours, because of their heavy work load the women are mostly unable to complete the literacy programmes. Also, at the level of the education and training, of women, significant progress was realized at all levels. That is in the schooling and retention of girls in school or their orientation in scientific and technical fields, or in the literacy programmes or in building their technical competence and capacity.

3-2 Health

Health

Global statistics show that women have a slightly superior life expectancy over men ; but in certain zones, for example in the region of Kolda and Kédougou, of the people between 15 and 49 years there are less women than men; this is due to the high level of maternal mortality in these zones. The rate of maternal mortality is high, it is 510 per 100 000 live births according to the statistics of Senegal and 1200 for 100 000 live births according to the UNDP 1998 report.

The imbalance in power in the relationships between men and women when it comes to negotiating for safe sex and sexual matters is one of the principal factors for the spread of STI and HIV, because the social control which is imposed only on women allows men much more sexual freedom and liberty, women have been made victims. The acceptance and continuous use of condoms is largely determined by men.

Women lack the means of protection and the possibility of using preventive methods are limited considering their low level of information, as well as the financial means of having access to health services. Due to the lack of power and control over their sexuality and their reproductive health, girls as young as 18 are married off and one out of three marriages is polygamous.

Concerning the involvement of women in health management, women are integrated only in a symbolic way at the level of the health management committees. Generally, even if there are two or three women, they do not participate in any meeting. The committee most of the time is managed by the president, the treasurer and the secretary. None of these functions are confided to a woman. According to the chief medical doctor of Kaffrine one can estimate that at least 60 % of the revenue accrued from the health structure come from maternal and child health and family planning services, which are specific services for women and their children. And the women who are involved in generating this revenue are not involved with the use and destiny of the resources. Probably by sitting on the committees and taking decisions, they might be able to have a say in the way patients are received, the conditions and comfort of the waiting rooms, delivery rooms and the maternity wards.

At the legal level, the National Assembly of Senegal is ready to put on its agenda the examination and introduction of a law against discrimination of persons living with HIV/AIDS, the protection of women and girls against rape and all other forms of violence, the criminalization of the voluntary transmission of HIV.

At the institutional level the government of Senegal has set up a National AIDS Plan with the involvement of all the ministries, the local governments, the communities at grassroots level, civil society and NGOs. Every ministry has a sector-based plan to be executed within the framework of a partnership.

At the level of costs for health care for women, the elderly, and the physically disabled girls, it is important to mention certain positive developments which have been registered

Mother to Child transmission of HIV has dropped from 30% to 5%. Treatment and social services intended for the vulnerable groups have become more accessible due to the existence of 80 decentralized centres for voluntary testing and counselling, free supply of antiretroviral (ARV) for all HIV-positive women or those living with AIDS.

There is also a strong political will as regards the access of the HIV-positive persons to employment and to income generating activities (AGR). As an example, funding to the tune of 10,000,000 FCFA is put aside, within the framework of the Credit project for Women (PCF), to support actions of solidarity for HIV-positive women of the regions in the country, to support them

to develop AGR.

The project for poverty reduction also has a support fund amounting to 150,000,000 FCFA for people living with HIV/AIDS. A seminar for the selection of projects was held but no project has yet been selected. The associations group together both men and women. Besides, there has been an appreciative increase in the use of impregnated mosquito nets for the prevention of malaria in pregnant women, with an increase from 22% to 42%.

Added to this, there are the free coverage of caesarean cases and deliveries, free treatment of pregnant women affected by malaria, as well as the development of basic obstetric care and urgent obstetric treatment. The rate of maternal mortality has dropped from 510 per thousand to 434 per thousand. The free health coverage of women victims of obstetric fistulas has also just been decided by the Head of State. This measure is accompanied, by strict legal punishment for people who propagate early marriages of young girls. This is aimed at preventing fistulas.

In terms of constraints, it is important to identify the absence of a well defined policy for access to treatment and to resources by HIV-positive women.

The provision of a budgetary line in 2007 should help to strengthen assistance to this vulnerable group.

3-3 Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries

Women constitute 52 % of the population and represent more than 60 % in food production and 2/3 in the commercial sector. They intervene in different domains: agriculture, business, livestock breeding, fishing, etc. Women constitute 75% of the rural populace and work very hard in the farms in addition to their roles as mothers and house wives yet even though the constitution of Senegal recognises and guarantees access to and ownership of land and property by women, the full realisation or actualisation of this is yet to come.

Agriculture

Women cultivate millet, groundnuts and also do horticulture: In many zones such as: Louga, Kaffrine; Niayes and valley of the River Senegal, there is a relatively important production of vegetables. In Niayes, in spite of not having enough means, the women have put a lot of initiative by trying to develop new crops such as coffee and garlic. In the zone of Kaffrine they put a lot of value on troughs for water.

Women play a significant role in agricultural development in this country. They constitute 75% of the rural population. In addition to their reproductive role, women account for 81% of all agricultural work, which therefore implies that on a daily basis they work for 12 to 15 hours. However there is a social consensus that men should help women in their work especially work that entails a lot of use of physical force.

Land

The constitution of Senegal recognizes and guarantees access to land and to property by women. Article 15, paragraph 2 states: "both man and woman have equal right to have access to and to own land under conditions determined by law". Strong advocacy actions are constantly made by the Minister of Women, the Family and Social Development aimed at the mayors and presidents of rural communities for the actual application of the provisions of the constitution relative to access to land by women. It is usually the customary law that is applied in explaining the unequal access of men and women to title deeds. It is up to the man to offer a portion of land to his wife, but if he has many wives, he can only give to each woman a very small portion of land or nothing at all.

The situation is the same everywhere in Senegal except for a few exceptions like Cassamance. In fact, equality in the Diola social system, as described by sociologists and historians, is only confined to the social relations between different social groups. Not much attention is paid to inequality between the sexes. In the diola system, land is passed from father to son and women never inherit land except in zones like Bandial, Niaguiss, and Blouf: zones situated on the south of the river Cassamance. Despite this exclusion from ownership of land, women share the responsibility of feeding the family with their husbands; each one has a role to play during six months per year, the man during the rainy season and the woman during the dry season. Besides the customs and traditions, there are new institutions like the rural councils and development programmes, largely dominated by men which reinforces inequality between the sexes.

At Keur Momar SARR we examined the minutes of a meeting numbered 15 of 22 July 1999 of a rural council which took place in the presence of 6 women. We note that 90% of land allocation went to the men. Only 5 were allocated to a GPF and 3 to an adviser who was a woman.

Table 3: Allocation of customary land at Keur Momar SARR

Land/ field allocated by Zone	Men	Women	Total
Loumby Guédé Ferlo	73	4	77
Keur Baba Seck	2	0	02

Ndame-NIT de Namarel Thiapedia	10	2	12
Diasserrwabeeee Aly and Loumby Guido	20	6	26
Keur Momar SARR and Gankette guenth	3	0	03
Total	108	12	120

In the delta area, SAED allocated land to men as family heads, but the women who are heads of household due to the absence of their husbands were never taken into account. Out of 3200ha at Bouddoum, it was planned to give 10 ha to women, which make only 10%. Nevertheless, traditionally it is the women who work on the land that is on the river banks. Despite all this, the women try collectively to have access to land but with derisory results. The women's groups, however big they may be, have very little land. At Gayé, the GPF has 500 women, but they were only allocated 10ha, whereas at Bokhol 2 ha, was allocated for 450 women. In the SV3 C section created in October, 1999, the women obtained 17 acres out of a total of 359 ha, that is 4, 7 %; for 681 cultivators 60 were women. In the readily allocated treated land in Dagana-Dieurbas, out of 359ha, the women obtained 30 ha. That is 8.35 %, this constitutes progress.

The new approach consists of systematically integrating women in the provision of land that is treated and allocated for cultivation. This constitutes a significant advancement. The section 11c has 24 women out of 58 persons. In the 12c section the president is a man, but all the other members of the executive are women. Besides the mixed sections, the SAED has created the first feminine section in the area that has been treated and allocated. It is regrettable that SAED needed 34 years to arrive at this point. Previously, the women were taken into account in domestic allocations.

The politics of land allocation to women however meets resistance. For example, in the new treated land in Dagana which concerns 359 acres, it was planned that 282 acres will be allocated to Gayé, 47 ha to Dagana, and 30 ha to Gambou Thilé. The producers of Dagana considering the 47 ha as insufficient wanted to take 5 ha from the 10 ha which was allocated to the women to reduce it to 5 ha. Obviously, the women were not represented in the association of the producers.

People forget that the 2 or 5 ha allocated to women is for hundreds of women. Nevertheless, during this time, enough land is allocated to personalities who are not living in the village such as marabouts and high-ranking civil servants. At Keur Momar SARR, 50 ha were attributed to a religious leader, while for the majority, the attributed land was 5 ha, and such is the case as in the Gaye's rural community where land was allocated to marabouts non residents, without them even requesting for it.

Factors of production

The women need seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, but they are obliged to pass through their husbands because the cooperatives do not involve the women as separate producers. They have no means to invest in modern methods of production. In Niayes, the men have more wells than the women. So, 2/3 of the women have less than 3 wells and 80 % of the men have more than 3 wells. The poorest families do not possess equipment, such as ox cart, donkies, etc., and where they exist, they are under the control of the men who are generally the owners and do not agree to give them to the women without some payment in cash. At Dionewar, in the islands of Saloum, when the women have to get firewood for cooking in the other islands, they are obliged to rent the canoes of their husbands.

Livestock Breeding

The women practise, almost all aspects of animal husbandry ranging from the breeding of small ruminant to poultry. They also transform animal products. In the zone of Kaolack, in the AGROPOV they represent 80 % for the breeding of the small ruminant as ovine races, but they are only 63 out of 500 members, that is 12 %. More and more they are excluded from owning cattle. But because rearing cattle is conceived as a male domain, the women are never invited to

meetings on technical questions. The structures of intervention do not call upon them, because they do not even know their existence; they are represented by their husbands and their brothers, and are deprived of information which would help them to better administer their resources. Nevertheless they are sometimes true owners of the cattle.

Fishing: conservation and transformation of sea products

In all the coastal zones, the women are mainly active in marketing of sea products. Individually or collectively, they buy the fish from the fishermen for their own commercial purposes. But they experience serious losses, when they cannot sell all the fish, because there is always no system of conservation, and their capacity to transform the fish is very low or even absent. In 1999 the landing site for the fishermen at Lompoul had 6 functional groupings with 116 women and upcoming 4 GIE who were in charge of the transformation of sea products. Out of 90,600 tons of fish that landed 46,500 tons were transformed and 26 tons were intended for the wholesale fish merchants. No organization that defends the interests of fishing professionals takes into account the preoccupations of the women producers during the strategic negotiations for the sector, because these actors are not even represented in it.

Forestry development and management of the environment

Forestry is a major sector and women have taken the lead in developing seedlings. They have acquired the competence in the realization of nurseries and re-afforestation. But the aspect of producing charcoal continues to be under the monopoly of the men because of policies. The same is also feared for the production of fruit trees. The women are often dissociated from the development of environmental policies even though in many regions they are actively involved in the fight against the degradation of the environment especially in the area of re-afforestation

They are also involved in art work, tie and dye, craft, and industry even though they are there as mere workers. An analysis of the situation shows diverse activities that are undertaken by women in all the economic sectors, but this does not translate into better living conditions for them. The reasons for this are many:

- weak production capacity of women,
- weak technical capacity
- work overload
- poor income and lack of access to credit

This leads us to a very fundamental question on gender relations or the inequality of sexes. Besides, the Ministry of women, the family and social development has just introduced a project on community interest intended to facilitate the access of women to land with assurance of financial and material support for the development of the land.

In another area, within the framework of the reform on land tenure in Senegal, the head of state has instructed that women's associations should be represented in the technical commissions in order to take women's concerns into account. It is the same within the framework of the new law of orientation towards agro-forestry and the Plan of Back to Agriculture initiated in 2006 which grants everyone access to land.

During the last two decades, significant progress has been made in policies and programmes relative to the promotion of women. The multilateral, bilateral partners and the NGOs were involved in these efforts which allowed the improvement of the status of women and widened their opportunities for economic and social promotion. To illustrate this, it is necessary to note:

- the adoption in 1972, of the family code which gave the appropriate legal framework to defend the interests of women;
- the creation in 1978, of a ministry charged with the promotion of women;
- the adoption in 1982, of the first plan of action in favour of women;
- follow up support to initiatives for the creation and structure of women's associations and

groups;
-introduction of labour saving devices at home.

The National Women's Plan of Action (PANAF), 1997-2001, underlines that the central role of women in sustainable development as well as their important contribution are recognised in statements and speeches; however in reality their work and contributions are under estimated and under quantified.

3-4 Economic Activities

Economic Activities

In Senegal, the consensual and participatory manner in which civil society and all the technical, financial and social institutions implemented the two action plans for women from 1982 to 2001 coupled with the recent development of a national strategy for gender equity and equality have led to the achievement of significant gains .

Gender based employment: Source: DPS, ESP 2001

	Employment					
	Male	%	Female	%		
Government and Private	427,947		236,468		664 4154	
Own Account (Self-employed)	NA		NA			
Unpaid Family Worker	381 195		772 613		1,153,868	
Total						

In Senegal, the consensual and participatory manner in which civil society and all the technical, financial and social institutions implemented the two action plans for women from 1982 to 2001 coupled with the recent development of a national strategy for gender equity and equality have led to the achievement of significant gains. On the economic plan, specific measures have enabled women on the one hand, to increase their access to factors of production and financial resources and, on the other hand, to strengthen their organisation and management capacities.

An example, is the project on the fight against poverty placed under the custody of the Ministry of Women, the Family and Social Development invested 20 billion, 823 millions FCFA in the domain of capacity building of micro finances and of the realization of infrastructure and equipment, with a priority for the training of women on micro finance, labour saving devices and construction of socio educative centres. The Project of Credit for Women has, injected some 2 billion, 886 million CFA francs in income generating activities for women at either individual level or as an association. For 2006, more than 1 billion and a half was planned for the financing of this project. This excludes the other sources of financing, public or private, funds for the female entrepreneurs, funds for economic promotion, decentralized financial systems or banks. The programme for the improvement of the working conditions of women helped to equip women with different materials for an amount of 4,357,991 FCFA between 2000 and 2005.

4. On-going Gender Projects

Project / Program	Implementing Organization	Donor Organization	Duration	Budget	Relative to Women
Women / General					
Capacity building of the Ministry of Family and small children : Strategy in Population and Development (2002-2006)	Ministry of Family and Children	UNFPA	NA	602.871 US\$ governmental contribution : 81.691 US\$)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and utilisation of Methodological guide for gender mainstreaming in policies and programmes - Dissemination of gender Equality reference framework - Involvement and sensitisation of decision makers and other development workers on the effective integration of gender dimension in their respective domains of intervention - Collection and dissemination of data base and information on gender issues
Extended programme on the fight against poverty	Ministry of social Development	UNDP			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Capacity building -Microfinance - Realisation of social and community infrastructure
Project to support poverty reduction Project on the fight Against Poverty	Ministry of Social Development Ministry of Social Development	UNDP ABD Nordic Fund		20 billion 823 million CFA Francs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Capacity building -Microfinance -Realisation of social and community infrastructure -Capacity building -Microfinance -Realisation of social and community infrastructure
Social Development Fund Agency	Ministry of Social Development	World Bank		20 billion 823 million CFA Francs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Capacity building -Microfinance -Realisation of social and community infrastructure
Project TTF gender	Regional UNDP Office	UNDP		90 000 US \$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building in gender of UN agencies staff and Ministries staff Development of a methodology and establishment of a tool to analyse gender mainstreaming in projects and programmes Creation of the Gender Excellence centre
Project to	Department	UN			Support the participation and


reinforce national mechanisms Development of capacities of national mechanisms of women's promotion in order to promote gender equality in African Countries	for the advancement of women				access of women to media and NTICS, as tools which contribute to women's promotion and autonomy.
Women's Credit Project	Ministry of Women, Family and Social development	China (Taiwan)		2 billion, 886 million CFA F For 2006, more than 1 billion and half were in provision	Funding of income generating activities for individual women or women's associations
Programme of labour saving devices for women's domestic work	Ministry of Women, Family and Social development			4 357 991 595 CFA F between 2000 and 2005	Equip women with different technical material in order to facilitate and reduce the burden of their domestic work
Observatory for Women and Children's Rights	Ministry of Women, Family and Social Development				-To ensure that Senegal respects and effectively implements all commitments signed through international conferences as well as international judicial instruments related to women and children rights.
Programme of implementation for the National Centre for women's Assistance and Training and Departmental centres Priority Project on Literacy for Women	Ministry of Women, Family and Social Development Ministry in charge of adult literacy and the	World Bank			-To develop actions in order to increase women's awareness level in the domain of health prevention, -To ensure technical training for women so that they are able to embark on income generating activities and also to be provided with legal advice -To open literacy classes at the national level emphasizing on women's capacity building Training of beneficiaries in order to


Project to support the Non Formal Education plan of action	promotion of national languages Ministry in charge of adult literacy and the promotion of national languages	Canadian Cooperation			promote income generating activities -To open literacy classes at the national level emphasizing on women's capacity building Training of beneficiaries in order to promote income generating activities
Integration of gender mainstreaming in the Acacia strategy	IDRC	IDRC			-To facilitate access and utilisation of IT in marginalised communities, particularly women and young people -To guarantee massive representation of women in different aspects of the programme, -To integrate gender mainstreaming in the conception, implementation and evaluation of the Acacia projects.
ITC and Gender Project	ENDA Synfey				-To promote women's rights through the utilisation of NTICs -Lobbying -Advocacy for joint parental responsibilities

5 Gender Information Sources

5-1. List of Organizations/individuals related to Gender

Name of Organization	Contact Person (Area of specialization)	Results (Project Content Year Related Organizations, Experience in Social & Gender Analysis	Reports / Writers (Published Year etc.)	Contact Address Tele/Fax/E.Mail
Organization/individual who prepared the Profile				
Government Organization				
Ministry of Health	NA	NA	NA	
International Organisation				
NGOs				
African Network For Integrated Development	Development work	NA	NA	Rue 11 x 10 Amitie II Dakar Senegal Tel: (221)-24-60-48 Fax: (221) 25 75 36
Association Des Bacheliers Pour L'emploi Et Le Developpement	Employment issues and development	NA	NA	B.P. 12135 Colobane Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 2616102 Fax: (011 221) 2616102
Association Des Femmes De L'Afrique De L'ouest	Women and development	NA		Boulevard du Sud Point E, B.P. 5802 Dakar Senegal Tel: 221 25 25 52 Fax: 221 25 25 52
Association Des Professionnelles Africaines De La Communication (APAC)				BP 4234, 38 BD de la Republique Dakar Senegal Tel: 221 210815 Fax: 221 220042
Association For The Promotion Of Senegalese Women Association Pour La Promotion De Las Femme Senegalaise (APROFES)				B.P. 12 Kaolack Senegal Tel: (221) 413195 Fax: (221) 413195
Association Of African Women For Research And				Avenue Cheikh Anta

<p>Development (AAWORD)</p> <p>Association of African Women for Research and Development</p> <p>Centre D'informations Juridiques Du Reseau Africain Pour Le Developpement Integre (CIJ/RADI)</p> <p>Coalition for the Development of Urban Africa (ECOPOP)</p> <p>Collectif Des Femmes Pour La Defense De La Famille </p> <p>Conseil Des Organisations Non Gouvernementales D'appui Au Developpement</p> <p>Cosapere</p> <p>ENDA-SYNFEV Synergie Genre et Developpement, Environnement et Developpement du Tiers Monde Synergy Gender and Development, Environment and Development of the Third World</p> <p>Environnement Et Developpement Du Tiers Monde (ENDATM)</p>	<p>The Executive Secretary</p>	<p>ENDA-Environment and Development in the Third World is an international non-governmental organization. The headquarters are in Dakar, Senegal, but its activities take place throughout the whole Third World. SYNFEV- Synergy Gender and Development is a team within ENDA whose mandate is to advocate for development in areas such as gender planning and (electronic) communication for women. These programs focus mainly on the Francophone African area. ENDA-SYNFEV</p>	<p>Diop, Angle Canal IV, BP 3304 Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 25 98 22/3 Fax: (221) 24 12 89</p> <p>BP.15367 , Dakar-Fann, Senegal Tel.:(221) 824-20-53 Fax:(221) 824-20-56 Email: aaword@telecomplus.sn</p> <p>B.P. 12855 Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 246048 Fax: (221) 257536</p> <p>BP 3370, Dakar, Senegal. Tel: 221-253 200. Fax: 221-253 232. E-mail: africaucus@enda.sn</p> <p>BP 3098 Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 51 36 44 Fax: (221) 51 24 72</p> <p>Sicap Amitie I, Villa No. 3089 BIS., BP 4109 Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 244416 Fax: (221) 24 44 13</p> <p>P.O. Box 11184 Dakar Senegal Tel: (221 24) 78 31 Fax: (221 24) 78 31</p> <p>B.P. 3370, Dakar, Senegal Tel : 221 821 60 27 or 221 822 42 29 Fax : 221 822 26 95 Email : mhms@enda.sn</p>
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<p>Femme Developpement Entreprise En Afrique Senegal  Femmes Developpment Enterprise en Afrique (FDEA)</p> <p>Fondation International Pour Le Developpement</p> <p>Forum For African Voluntary Development Organization (FAVDO)</p> <p>Goree Institute</p> <p>Institut Africain Pour</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>NA</p>	<p>organizes online conferences for women in Francophone Africa on the use of information and communication as well as the topics mentioned above. The website contains articles published in French and English. Languages: French, English.</p> <p>(Credit, Savings, formation/Training, conseil, Agriculture)</p>	<p>URL: http://www.enda.sn/synfev/synfev.htm</p> <p>4 et 5 Rue Kleber, B.P. 3370 Dakar Senegal Tel: 221-22-4229 Fax: (011 221) 222695</p> <p>B.P. 3921 Dakar Fax: 221 25 42 87</p> <p>Rue 1 X F point E Bourguiba PB 3921 Dakar, Senegal Tel: (221) 23.00.58, 220240 Fax: (221) 25-42-8</p> <p>Rue 4 Zone-B BP. 12093, Dakar Senegal Tel: 221 255547 Fax: (011 221) 255547</p> <p>La Maison du Soudan Rue des Batteries, Goree Island Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 217081 Fax: (221) 22 5476</p> <p>3 Bd Djily Mbaye Imm. Fahd, BP 1780 Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 23 57 20 Fax: (221) 23.57.21</p> <p>Route de la Pyro- Technie, BP 21007 Dakar-Ponty</p>
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La Democratie	NA			Senegal Tel: (221) 255951 Fax: (221) 255955
Union For African Population Studies	Katy Diop			Rue El Hadj Ahmadou Malick Gaye, Ex Rue G (BOPP), B.P. 5070 Dakar Senegal (221) 24 67 96
Union Pour La Solidarite Et L'entraide				B.P. 4163, 38 Bld de la Republique Dakar Senegal Tel: (221) 236268 Fax: (221) 243569
Yeewu Yewwi (Association For Women's Liberation)				

5-2 List of reports and references related to Gender

Title	Publisher	Year	Where to get
Education and Training			
L'un et l'autre. Des relations entre hommes et femmes. - Paris : Odile Jacob, 1986.	. BADINTE R, Elisabeth	- 1986	Siteweb: www.genreenaction.net/article.php3?id_article=3698 www.tostan.org
L'approche intégrée de la dimension genre : un changement de focale.- Marseille, 2003 : Communication présentée lors du Colloque du GRAIFF (Groupement Régional pour l'Action et l'information des femmes et des familles – l'Association pour l'égalité entre femmes et familles)	BORGHIN O, B.	1998 -	
-DEELSTRA, Jacqui (2006).- Tostan participant declaring an end to FGC for 59 villages.- published in Tostan website : www.tostan.org		2006	
-DIOP, Ababacar (2006).- TIC et formation sur le "genre et développement".- Communication présentée lors du Colloque International de Bordeaux du 02 au 04 février 2006 sur le theme "genre et développement : quels enjeux pour la formation" email : baba_kone@yahoo.fr			
-DHAVERNAS, M. J. (1989).- "La bi-catégorisation en philosophie: piège ou instrument heuristique?" in A.-M. Daune Richard, M.-C. Hurtig et M.F.Pichevin (dir.) <i>Catégorisation de sexe et constructions scientifiques</i> . Aix-en-Provence, CEFUP, Petite Collection, pp 159-166.			
-FNUAP (2005).- Note de présentation du Projet ID : SEN/02/P11.- Dakar : FNUAP, 2005			
-GREF (1998).- La place des femmes dans les instances décisionnelles.- Dakar : CECI/ACDI			
-HOWSON, Cynthia (2005).- L'intégration du genre dans les politiques publiques de la Banque mondiale : exemple des politiques de transport au Sénégal.- Bordeaux : Institut d'études Politiques de Bordeaux, 2005.- Mémoire Master PDAPS, 140p.			
-KEITA, Diène ; LEYE, Marième (2005).- Rapport final sur les activités du projets TTF Genre – Sénégal.- Dakar : PNUD, 2005			
-MBOBJ, Aïda (s.d).- Discours présenté lors de 49e session de la commission de la condition de la femme des Nations Unies.- Dakar : MFFDS.- 8p			
-MEAD, Margaret (1971).- L'un et l'autre sexe. Le role de l'homme et de la femme dans la société.- Paris : Denoël/Gonthier			

<p>-Ministère de la Femme, de la Famille et du Développement Social (2006).- Rapport du Sénégal sur la mise en oeuvre de la Déclaration solennelle des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement sur l'égalité entre les hommes en Afrique.- Dakar : MFFDS, 2006</p> <p>-MOSER, Caroline (1993).- <i>Gender Planning and Development, Theory, Practice and Training</i> Routledge. UK/USA.</p> <p>-NDIAYE, Aminata Diouf (2006).- Violences à l'égard des femmes : situation au Sénégal.- Dakar : MFFDS, 2006.- 10p</p> <p>-Institut Panos (s.d.).- Sénégal, ce que femmes veulent...- extrait du site web de l'institut Panos Afrique de l'Ouest (IPAO) : www.panos-ao.org <i>Country Profiles for Population and Reproductive Health, Policy Developments and Indicators 2005</i>, produced jointly by <u>UNFPA</u> and <u>Population Reference Bureau</u></p> <p><i>World Bank Gender Data 2005</i></p> <p>-SAGNA, Mare Badiane (2006).- Les réticences et facteurs de blocage dans le cadre de l'intégration du genre.- Communication présentée lors du Colloque International de Bordeaux du 02 au 04 février 2006 sur le thème "genre et développement : quels enjeux pour la formation" mail : badianesagna@yahoo.fr</p> <p>-SARR, Fatou (2002).- Femmes, administration territoriale et pouvoir local.- Communication présentée lors du séminaire élargi organisé par le Collectif des Organisations de la Société civile sur la Réforme de l'Administration Territoriale et locale.- Dakar, 9-10 janvier 2002)</p> <p>-SCOTT, Joan (1988).- "Genre : une catégorie utile d'analyse historique". <i>Les Cahiers du GRIF</i> n° 37-38 (traduction de Eleni Verikas), pp. 125-149.</p> <p>-SOS Faim (2005).- Le genre en question.- Bruxelles : SOS Faim, 2005.- in Défis Sud n°67 : site web : www.sosfaim.org/pages_be/fr/publication</p> <p>-SYSTEME DES NATIONS UNIES (2001).- Evaluation Commune de la Situation du Sénégal Septembre 2001</p>	UNFPA	2005	www.panos-ao.org
	World Bank	2005	www.unfpa.org
	Direction de la Planification et de la réforme de l'éducation (DPRE) Banque Mondiale-	2004	www.worldbank.org
		Avril 2006	http://devdata.worldbank.org/edstats/summaryEducationProfiles/CountryData/Getsho
	SCOTT, Joan (1988).-	1988	www.sosfaim.org/pages_be/fr/publication
	SOS Faim (2005).-	2005	http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw
	United Nations	2001	
		2003	

<p>- . Soutien aux mécanismes nationaux pour le genre (document de présentation sur le net).- http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw</p> <p>-VERSCHUUR, C. ; REYSOO, F. (2003).- Genre, pouvoir et justice sociale.- Genève : l'Harmattan, IUED/EF1, 2003.- in Cahiers Genre et Développement n°4, 283p. www.unige.ch/iued</p> <p>Women, Girls, Gender and HIV/AIDS : a paper presented at an Expert Consultation on addressing the higher vulnerability of young women and girls in Africa to HIV/AIDS infection ,organised by The Gender Directorate of the African Union Commission, 17-18 July 2006, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p>Gender Audit of the media in nine countries in West Africa (Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea Conakry, Niger, Burkina Faso, The Gambia and Cape Verde): jointly undertaken by FAMEDEV and IFJ Africa Office, 2006/2007: Identifying a Media and Gender Strategy for West Africa.</p>	<p>VERSCHUUR, C. ; REYSOO, F.</p> <p>FAMEDEV</p> <p>FAMEDEV and IFJ</p>	<p>July 2006</p> <p>2006 to 2007</p>	<p>www.famedev.org</p> <p>www.ifjafricque.org</p> <p>www.famedev.org</p>
Health and Medicine			
Le système de Santé au Sénégal	Ambassade de France, Mission Economique	Oct. 2005	
Le VIH/SIDA et infections sexuellement transmissibles	OMS & UNAIDS	2004	
Les statistiques du Sénégal en bref	UNICEF	2005	
Rapport annuel sur le Sénégal	UNFPA	2005	
Sécurité alimentaire et indicateurs statistiques extraits des données internationales	UNICEF	2005	
Enquêtes sur les ménages	Direction de la Prévision et des	2004	

Base de données sur le genre du groupe de la Banque Mondiale	Statistiques, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances	2006	
Le Profil du Sénégal	Banque Mondiale	2006	
Rapport du Sénégal sur la mise en œuvre de la Déclaration Solennelle des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement sur l'égalité du genre	Banque Mondiale	2006	http://famille.gouv.sn
Répertoire national des Associations et ONG féminines	Ministère de la Famille et la Petite Enfance :		Gouvernement du Sénégal : http://www.gouv.sn
Répertoire national des Associations et ONG de l'Environnement			http://www.fes.de/fulltext/bueros/senegal/00720toc.htm
ASELFAE			http://www.fes.de/fulltext/bueros/senegal/00264toc.htm
Association Sénégalaise Pour le leadership des Femmes dans l'Agriculture et l'Environnement			http://www.aselfa.sn/
BLD			http://le-senegal.com/bld/
Bibliothèque-Lecture-Développement. Association pour la promotion du livre et des bibliothèques au Sénégal.			http://cncr.ifrance.com/
CNCR			http://www.cresp.sn/
Conseil National de Concertation et de coopération des Ruraux. Regroupement de Fédérations d'Associations Rurales et Villageoises pour contribuer à l'amélioration des conditions de vie des populations rurales.			http://senegal.fes-international.de/
CRESP			http://www.afd.fr/projets/projets_pays.cfm?id=13
FES- Fondation Friedrich Ebert			http://www.afdb.org/african_countries/home_senegal
Agence Française de Développement (AFD)			
Banque Africaine de Développement (BAD)			
Banque Mondiale			
Commission Européenne			
Direction Générale du Développement. Projets en cours au Sénégal. Rapport annuel, statistiques.			
Délégation de la Commission Européenne au Sénégal.			
GTZ			

<p>Les Nations Unies au Sénégal</p> <p>USAID</p> <p>Senegal: Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 2006 Released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, March 6, 2007 www.usa.gov</p> <p>PAMBAZUKA NEWS :Strategies for civil society organisations in moving from ratification to implementation in West Africa www.pambazuka.org</p> <p>Heads of State's Solemn Declaration on equality between men and women, Addis Ababa 2004</p> <p>Ministry of the Family, Social Development and National Solidarity: final evaluation of the National Action Plan for women, October 2003</p> <p>The African Human and People's Rights Charter's Additional Protocol on Women's Rights</p> <p>Dr. Sarr, F. (2005) « Les femmes ont baissé la garde » in Magazine Continental no. 39, June 2005</p> <p>Wildaf West Africa, Newsletter no. 20, October 2004</p>		<p>htm</p> <p>http://lnweb18.worldbank.org/AFR/af.r.nsf/31fe5b703606b96d852567cf</p> <p>http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/country/sn_fr.htm</p> <p>http://www.delsen.cec.eu.int/</p> <p>http://www.gtz.de/themen/ebene3.asp?Thema=8&ProjectId=49&Reihenfolge=</p> <p>http://www.un.org.sn/</p> <p>http://www.uncdf.org/senegal/</p> <p>http://www.usaid.gov/regions/afr/country_info/senegal.html</p> <p>http://www.frame-web.org/CtryRegHome/senegal.html</p>
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7. Definitions

References for Definitions:

UNAIDS and the WHO's AIDS Epidemic Update (2000)

Reference population, adopted by the World Health Organization in 1983

UNICEF

UNFPA

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

International Labour Organisation

World Bank

UNESCO

FAMEDEV

IFJ

World Association of Christian Communication WACC

Gender is a concept that refers to the social and cultural constructions that each society assigns to behaviours, characteristics and values belonging to men and women, reinforced by symbols, laws and regulations, institutions, and subjectivity. Their strength lies in the fact that these are considered natural and cannot be altered. Another important aspect is that gender should not be identified with man or woman. Gender refers to the relations between man and women and to the social constructions that make for femininity and masculinity. This is the reason why gender is at the same time a category that has to do with relations and with politics because gender attributions are oppressive and rigid both for men and for women, although traditionally it is women who have lost in this relation.

Gender differences are often based on the perception that certain characteristics assigned to women or men are inherent and unchangeable, when in fact they are shaped by ideological, historical, religious, ethnic, economic and cultural determinants. This gap created as a result of these determinants is what we are trying to address.

Gender equality is a key concern of all actors in development. It is one of the biggest challenges confronting Governments, Non Governmental Organizations, individuals, Civil Society Organisations including the Media. Over the past decade there has been an important shift in development policy from women in development to rights, participation and gender mainstreaming in response to the continued marginalisation of women. Gender mainstreaming is designed to integrate a gender equality perspective in all areas as a cross-cutting theme. It entails the inclusion of the perspective of both men and women at the design, planning, implementation and monitoring stages of development programmes and analysing the various effects of such programmes on men and women. The goal is the promotion of greater gender equality. It is a potentially radical tool that can lead to changes to goals, strategies, actions, organisations and institutions.

Summary gender profile: Differences in the opportunities and resources available to men and women exist throughout the world, but they are most prevalent in poor developing countries. This pattern begins at an early age, with boys routinely receiving a larger share of education and health spending than girls. Girls in many developing countries are allowed less education by their families than boys are, and this is reflected in lower female primary school enrolment and higher female illiteracy. As a result women have fewer employment opportunities, especially in the formal sector. Women who do work outside the home often also bear a disproportionate share of the responsibility for household chores and child-rearing.

Life expectancy has increased for both men and women in all regions, but female morbidity and mortality rates sometimes exceed male rates, particularly during early childhood and the reproductive years. In high-income countries women tend to outlive men by six to eight years on average, while in low-income countries the difference is much narrower---about two to three years.

The causes of gender inequality, linked as they are to the decisions in households, are particularly complex. Regardless of how such decisions are made, they clearly are influenced by market signals and institutional and cultural norms that do not capture the full benefits to society of investing in women. Limited education and training, poor health and nutrition, and denied access to resources depress women's quality of life and hinder economic efficiency and growth. This is disturbing because women are agents of change, shaping the welfare of future generations.

GNP per capita is the gross national product, converted to U.S. dollars using the World Bank Atlas method, divided by the midyear population. GNP is the sum of gross value added by all resident producers plus any taxes (less subsidies) that are not included in the valuation of output plus net receipts of primary income (employee compensation and property income) from non-resident sources. Data are in current U.S. dollars. GNP, calculated in national currency, is usually converted to U.S. dollars at official exchange rates for comparisons across economies, although an alternative rate is used when the official exchange rate is judged to diverge by an exceptionally large margin from the rate actually applied in international transactions. To smooth fluctuations in prices and exchange rates, a special Atlas method of conversion is used by the World Bank. This applies a conversion factor that averages the exchange rate for a given year and the two preceding years, adjusted for differences in rates of inflation between the country and the G-5 countries (France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States). GNP per capita are estimated by World Bank staff based on national accounts data collected by Bank staff during economic missions or reported by national statistical offices to other international organizations.

Total population is based on the de facto definition of population, which counts all residents regardless of legal status or citizenship. Refugees not permanently settled in the country of asylum are generally considered to be part of the population of their country of origin. The data are provided by national statistical offices or by the United Nations Population Division and compiled by the World Bank.

Female population (% of total) is the percentage of the population that is female. The data are provided by national statistical offices or by the United Nations Population Division and compiled by the World Bank.

Life expectancy at birth indicates the number of years a newborn infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life. Data are from the World Bank.

Adult illiteracy rate (% of people aged 15+) is the proportion of adults aged 15 and above who cannot, with understanding, read and write a short, simple statement about their everyday life. The data are from UNESCO.

Total labour force comprises people who meet the ILO definition of the economically active population: all people who supply labour for the production of goods and services during a specified period. It includes both the employed and the unemployed. While national practices vary in the treatment of such groups as the armed forces and seasonal or part-time workers, in general the labour force includes the armed forces, the unemployed and first-time job-seekers, but excludes homemakers and other unpaid caregivers and workers in the informal sector. The labour force estimates reported here were calculated by applying activity rates from the ILO database to the World Bank's population estimates to create a labour force series consistent with those estimates.

Female labour force (% of total) shows the extent to which women are active in the labour force. Data are from the ILO, which publishes estimates of the economically active population in its Yearbook of Labor Statistics.

Unemployment (total) is the share of the labour force that is without work but available for and seeking employment. Definitions of labour force and unemployment differ by country. Data are from the ILO.

Unemployment (female) is the share of the female labour force that is without work but available for and seeking employment. Definitions of labour force and unemployment differ by country. Data are from the ILO.

Net enrolment ratio is the ratio of the number of children of official school age (as defined by the national education system) who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding official school age.

Primary education provides children with basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills along with an elementary understanding of such subjects as history, geography, natural science, social science, art, and music. Data are from UNESCO.

Progression to grade 5 (% of cohort reaching grade 5) is the share of children enrolled in primary school who eventually reach grade 5. The estimate is based on the reconstructed cohort method. Data are from UNESCO.

Primary completion rate is the total number of students successfully completing (or graduating from) the last year of primary school in a given year, divided by the total number of children of official graduation age in the population. It follows the same methodology used by the OECD for the calculation of secondary school completion rates. The primary completion rate is a more comprehensive indicator of human capital formation and school system quality and efficiency than either gross or net enrolment ratios, or the cohort survival rate, as it measures both education system coverage and student attainment. It is also the most direct measure of national progress towards the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary completion.

The primary completion rate is compiled by staff in the education group in the World Bank's Human Development Network.

Youth illiteracy rate (% of people aged 15-24) is the percentage of people aged 15-24 who cannot, with understanding, read and write a short, simple statement about their everyday life. Data are from UNESCO.

Total fertility rate represents the number of children that would be born to a woman if she were to live to the end of her childbearing years and bear children in accordance with prevailing age-specific fertility rates. Data are from the World Bank.

Contraceptive prevalence rate is the percentage of women who are practicing, or whose sexual partners are practicing, any form of contraception. It is usually measured for married women age 15-49 only. Data are from Demographic and Health surveys or contraceptive prevalence surveys.

Births attended by skilled health staff refer to the percentage of deliveries attended by personnel trained to give the necessary supervision, care, and advice to women during pregnancy, labor, and the postpartum period, to conduct deliveries on their own, and to care for the newborn and the infant. Data are from the WHO.

Maternal mortality rate is the number of women who die during pregnancy and childbirth, per 100,000 live births. These data are estimates based on an exercise carried out by WHO and UNICEF. In this exercise, maternal mortality was estimated with a regression model using information on fertility, birth attendants, and HIV prevalence.

Child malnutrition is the percentage of children under five whose weight for age is less than minus two standard deviations from the median for the international reference population ages 0-59 months. The reference population, adopted by the World Health Organization in 1983, is based on children from the United States, who are assumed to be well nourished. Data have been compiled by World Bank staff from primary and secondary sources.

Prevalence of HIV refers to the percentage of people ages 15-24 that are infected with HIV. Data are from UNAIDS and the WHO's AIDS Epidemic Update (2000).