

A young girl with dark skin and hair, wearing a light-colored hoodie, is smiling and holding a large bunch of green bananas. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in a crowd.

**Every child has the right to a clean, healthy,
sustainable and abundant environment.**

Protecting Senegal's Future

Senegal, like much of sub-Saharan Africa, is facing significant challenges due to changes in the environment, which disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations, particularly children. Rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall patterns, and frequent extreme weather events like droughts and floods threaten essential sectors such as agriculture, water resources, and health. Agriculture, which employs over 70% of Senegal's population, is particularly at risk, as the sector heavily depends on rainfall, which has decreased by 30% since the 1970s. The impacts are profound, with food insecurity affecting millions and pushing families into deeper poverty.

Projected temperature increases of 1.1°C to 3.1°C by 2060 further exacerbate these vulnerabilities. Senegal's coastal regions, home to over 60% of its population, face additional threats from rising sea levels, coastal erosion, and saltwater intrusion, which jeopardize livelihoods and infrastructure.

Despite its low contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions, Senegal is actively addressing these challenges through strategies such as its National Adaptation Plan (NAP). However, the urgency for scaled-up international support remains critical to safeguarding the rights and futures of its children and communities.

Centering Children in Building Sustainability

ChildFund recognizes that environmental changes are not only ecological challenges but also a serious child rights crisis, directly threatening children's survival, development, and future. In response, we implement child-centered, locally-led programs aligned with Senegal's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and the National Climate Change Policy. Senegal's NDC aims for a 20% emissions cut by 2030, focusing on agriculture, forestry, and energy.

Our strategy integrates environmental action across all programmatic areas — including health, education, child protection, water resource management, food security and livelihoods — while promoting adaptation and environmental stewardship at all levels of society. Through innovative, community-driven approaches, we equip children and youth to lead efforts that build resilience, foster adaptation, and support mitigation for a sustainable future.

We also contribute to the Green Senegal Program by engaging youth in tree planting and environmental education. Aligned with the 'Senegal 2050: National Agenda for Transformation,' our efforts support sustainable development and resilient infrastructure. These actions advance national goals to increase adaptive capacity and reduce vulnerabilities in rural and coastal areas, prioritizing children's and youth's needs.

About ChildFund Senegal

ChildFund Senegal operates in 9 regions (Dakar, Thies, Diourbel, Ziguinchor, Kaffrine, Kaolack, Fatick, Sedhiou and Kolda), through 9 local implementing partner organizations, reaching over **3,500,000** children and their families, annually.

Focus Areas:

Child Protection, Early Childhood Development, Environmental Sustainability, Education, Food Security, Livelihoods, Health and Nutrition, WASH, Youth Development, Emergency Response and Advocacy.



Strategic Priorities



Community-Based Disaster Risk Management



Smart Agriculture



Natural Resource Management



Youth for Environmental Sustainability



Education on Environmental Care



Circular Economy



Water Resource Management



Energy-Efficient Technologies

Flagship Projects



Biogas Solutions: Converting Waste to Energy:

ChildFund implements projects to promote renewable energy solutions. One such initiative is the installation of 28 biodigesters for biogas production at household level in Diourbel region. This initiative protects the environment by promoting energy efficiency and the use of clean energy.



Youth and Women Leading Environmental Conservation:

In collaboration with Eau Vie et Environnement (EVE), a local NGO specializing in sustainable development, ChildFund spearheads several initiatives to enhance community resilience. One notable project focused on empowering youth and women to actively participate in environmental conservation efforts while also promoting economic independence. Through this partnership, we mobilized over 500 youth in Dakar to take leadership roles in advocating for sustainable practices and implementing adaptation strategies. This initiative also facilitated valuable knowledge exchange and strengthened community advocacy for environmental protection.



Agroforestry for Food Security and Nutrition:

ChildFund supports sustainable agroforestry by promoting the planting of fruit trees, like mangoes, that improve both the environment and family nutrition. These trees help restore soil health, provide a steady source of nutritious food, and open up income opportunities for young people. By connecting tree planting with livelihood development, these projects strengthen food security while enabling youth to earn a living and care for their communities.



Renewable Energy Solutions for Communities:

Through partnerships with local and global organizations, we are introducing renewable energy solutions in schools and communities. These include installing solar panels, promoting clean cooking alternatives, and supporting the shift from rain-fed to irrigated agriculture.

These efforts reduce reliance on harmful, non-renewable energy sources while improving the health and well-being of families. Most importantly, they help build a more sustainable future for the next generation.



Addressing Environmental, Water, and Conflict Linkages:

In Cassamance, where environmental change deepens food insecurity and water scarcity, ChildFund integrates peacebuilding into sustainability programs. Projects like Resilient and Transformed United Green Communities and Assisted Natural Soil Regeneration address environmental changes and reduce conflict risks.



Youth-Led Plastic Waste Management:

ChildFund has established innovative youth-led plastic waste management programs that convert plastic waste into reusable products in Dakar. This initiative not only contributes to environmental protection by reducing plastic pollution but also promotes economic empowerment for youth through the circular economy. By training youth in waste management, we are creating job opportunities while tackling one of the pressing environmental challenges facing Senegal.

Future Focus

Building environmental sustainability remains central to our efforts to improve the well-being of children, youth and communities.

Working in collaboration with communities, governments, the private sector, and various development partners, our strategy is designed to deliver measurable, scalable, and sustainable impact.

We offer proven solutions to environmental challenges while integrating the voices and needs of children and youth into every action.

As a trusted partner, ChildFund delivers locally driven, child-centered solutions that align with local frameworks such as the Green Senegal Program and Senegal 2050: National Agenda for Transformation, and global frameworks such as the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.



ChildFund
Senegal

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