



SENEGAL



TRADE UNION TAKE ON SDG IMPLEMENTATION

#HLPF2018



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ARE TRADE UNIONS AT THE TABLE?

The government of Senegal has integrated the SDGs into its Emerging Senegal Plan (PSE), a national policy document implemented through five-year priority action plans (PAP) and integrated into sectoral development programming of individual ministries. The PSE covers all 17 SDGs divided into three thematic priority axes: (1) growth and the structural transformation of the economy (SDGs 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9), (2) human capital, social protection and sustainable development (SDGs 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15) and (3) governance, institutions, peace and security (SDGs 10, 16 and 17).

The Ministry of the Economy and Finance and the Ministry of Planning, through their planning directorate, oversee the implementation of the SDGs.

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda is monitored through the harmonised framework for follow-up and evaluation created by the two ministries in 2015.

Trade unions have not benefitted from regular and transparent access to information on SDG implementation as, so far, only one mid-term information session has been organised on this subject. While some consultations had been set up in connection to the 2030 Agenda process, such as a workshop to validate the PSE and a workshop on the SDGs, trade unions have not been adequately involved in them. Trade unions have, however been able to participate in a process of pre-validating the voluntary national review of Senegal.

TRANSPARENCY



Irregular access to limited information

CONSULTATION



There are information sessions but no interaction

SOCIAL DIALOGUE



There are individual contributions from social partners to the national government



IS THE (DECENT) WORK GETTING DONE?

Numerous challenges to reaching the SDGs remain to be tackled in Senegal.

In 2011, 37.9% of the Senegalese population was living below the international poverty line and 46.7% of workers were living under the national poverty line in 2010, indicating that **target 1.1 (eradicate extreme poverty for all people)** was far off being reached. In addition, indicators on **target 1.3 (implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures)** show that only 8.3% of the population is covered by some sort of social protection – giving an insight into the size of the informal economy, within which workers are not covered by social protection.

While no official data is available on indicators relating to **target 5.4 (recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work)**, trade unions warn that domestic work, which is heavily feminised, remains an informal and unorganised sector of the economy, where wages are often below the minimum and workers' rights are frequently abused. With regards to **target 5.5 (ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life)**, serious challenges remain with regards to women's access to education, with only 10.2% of Senegalese women and girls having accessed some form of secondary education prior to 2015.

Target 8.3 (support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of MSMEs) is worrying, with 58% of jobs being precarious. This hits workers in the informal sector or those casually employed hardest. While unemployment was relatively low in 2015, at 4.9%, achieving **target 8.5 (full and productive employment and decent work for all)** is

still far off for youth between the ages of 20-24 and 25-29, who face respective unemployment rates of 19.5% and 17.5%. Furthermore, underemployment stood at 9.9% in 2011. NEET indicators for **target 8.6 (reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training)** stood at 36.2% of youth (15-24) in 2015. Furthermore, indicators for **target 8.7 (eradicate the worst forms of child labour)** show that 16.9% of children have been engaged in child labour in 2015 – a number which is particularly concerning as it relates to children used as street beggars and workers in coal mines in the east of Senegal.

Progress remains to be made for Senegal to reach **target 10.4 (adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality)**, as in 2011, the share of the top 10% of income earners accounted for 31% of overall GDP, while the bottom 20% of income earners account for 6.1% of GDP. However, trade unions stress that due to the difficulties in estimating the genuine volume of GDP without taking into consideration the true size of the informal economy, it is hard to rely on the veracity of these estimates.

Senegal has, in consultation with trade unions, put in place a National Plan of Action for adaptation to climate change in efforts to meet **target 13.2 (integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning)**.

Concerns remain with regards to meeting **target 16.10 (ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements)**, as the ITUC Right Index has noted 24 violations of trade union laws in Senegal in 2015, taking place both in the private and public sectors. Trade unions note cases of unfair dismissals which remain unchallenged.

WHERE TO NEXT?

TRADE UNION RECIPE TO LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

The UNSAS calls on the government of Senegal to:

- Adopt a participatory approach to policy making, ensuring the participation of all social partners, both upstream and downstream;
- Focus on enhancing and widening the scope of social programs to achieve real poverty reduction.
- Adapt the SDGs to national realities and needs;
- Prioritise the SDGs in its planning.



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