MCTN

Ministère de la Communication,
des Télécommunications et du Numérique

20-Years SENEGAL Reporting

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I.   Executive Summary

Provide a brief overview of the country's achievements, challenges, and future priorities related to the implementation of WSIS outcomes over the last 20 years.

As early as 2003, during the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Senegal[1] gained international recognition by initiating the Digital Solidarity Fund, demonstrating its commitment to building a fair and inclusive digital society. Since then, the country has consistently embedded the WSIS action lines into its national development agendas, progressively strengthening its digital governance framework.

The Accelerated Growth Strategy and the Sénégal Numérique 2025 roadmap laid the groundwork for digital infrastructure and service delivery. In 2025, the New Technological Deal[2] marked a major shift, defining a national vision for sovereign, ethical, inclusive, and sustainable digital transformation, built around twelve Priority Reference Programs (PRPs). Significant progress has been achieved: large-scale digitalization of public services, expansion of the national fiber optic network, adoption of a digital ethics charter, establishment of a national cybersecurity center, multilingual platforms, and the creation of a sovereign digital investment fund.

To ensure cross-sector coordination, Senegal established a National WSIS Committee, formally institutionalized in 2019, bringing together stakeholders from government, the private sector, academia, regulators, and civil society. This mechanism ensures long-term alignment with WSIS goals. This comitee is coordinated by ICT Direction of Ministry of Communication, telecommunications and Digital[3].

However, key challenges persist: fragmented institutional coordination, low interoperability across systems, dependency on external funding, territorial disparities in digital access, shortage of qualified human capital, and regulatory frameworks struggling to keep pace with innovation.

Looking beyond 2025, Senegal aspires to position itself as a regional hub for responsible digital transformation, grounded in technological sovereignty, inclusive connectivity, ethical AI, and proactive engagement in global digital governance.

II.   Progress on WSIS Action Lines

Please provide a summary of progress on the WSIS Action Lines over the last 20 years, detailing national initiatives and the integration of digital policies. For each of the following action lines, kindly indicate the key achievements, challenges, and future priorities. Please elaborate with success stories for each Action Line.

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[1] https://www.presidence.sn/en/
[2] https://www.newdealtechnologique.sn/
[3] https://www.mctn.sn/

World Summit
on the Information Society
2025
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

1. Action Line C1: The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development

- *Achievements*

    Senegal adopted an ambitious national ICT policy in 2001, aiming to refocus public action around the citizen. This led to the creation of a dedicated ministry, key agencies (ARTP[4], ADIE now SENUM SA[5]), and regulatory bodies like the CDP[6] and CNC[7]. Strategic frameworks were strengthened with the Accelerated Growth Strategy (SCA) and the Emerging Senegal Plan (PSE), positioning ICTs as development enablers. In 2016, the "Digital Senegal 2025" strategy laid out an inclusive vision based on four priority axes and three prerequisites. Initiatives to boost digital entrepreneurship were launched, including a youth-focused digital forum and funding for 45 startups, including 15 led by women. A national WSIS follow-up committee was established, ensuring sustainable multi-stakeholder coordination. The entrepreneurial ecosystem expanded through incubators like CTIC, Impact Hub, Concree, Cofina, and Sonatel[8]. In 2021, SENUM SA was created to lead the digital transformation of the State and manage public digital infrastructure. In 2023, Senegal adopted national strategies on data and artificial intelligence and launched the SenHub AI pilot. In February 2025, the President Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar FAYE[9] launched the New Technological Deal, a national digital strategy structured around 12 programs and over 50 projects. It targets digital sovereignty, cybersecurity, skills development, innovation, service digitalization, and modernization. Finally, the creation of GouvNum, under the Prime Minister's authority, strengthened digital project governance.

- *Challenges*

    Despite major progress in infrastructure, strategic planning, and the legal framework, several significant challenges remain. Inter-institutional coordination is often weak, with fragmented responsibilities across public entities, reducing the efficiency of digital policies. There is also a lack of continuity in implementing strategies, often due to changes in leadership or the absence of strong monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Moreover, long-term involvement of the private sector, civil society, and local authorities remains limited, which hampers local ownership of ICT policies. Lastly, financing remains a major hurdle, as state budget resources are often insufficient to support the full scope of large-scale digital projects.

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[4] **Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications et des Postes (https://artp.sn/)**

[5] https://senegalnumeriquesa.sn/en/

[6] **Commission de Protection des Données Personnelles** (https://www.cdp.sn/)

[7] **Commission nationale de Cryptologie** (https://stcc-ssi.sn/presentation-de-la-cnc/)

[8] https://sonatel.sn/

[9] https://www.presidence.sn/en/presidence/biographie-president

World Summit on the Information Society
2025
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- *Future priorities*

Senegal aims to adopt a more strategic and integrated digital governance model through its **Technological New Deal**. A major future priority is the establishment of a **Strategic Digital Steering Body** under the authority of the Prime Minister, tasked with overseeing the implementation of the country's **12 Priority Reference Programs (PRP)**. This initiative will be supported by a **multi-stakeholder digital governance framework** involving ministries, the private sector, civil society, and local governments. Particular focus will be placed on **data coherence**, **infrastructure rationalization**, and the development of a **performance framework** to ensure robust monitoring and evaluation of digital public policies.

2. Action Line C2: Information and communication infrastructure

- *Achievements*

Senegal has established a regional-class digital network with over 12,000 km of fiber optic backbone, cross-border links to Mali, Mauritania, and Guinea-Bissau, and an Internet bandwidth upgraded to 2220 Gbps thanks to four submarine cables. The target is 5620 Gbps by 2025. The country enjoys near-universal 4G coverage (≈99%) and has launched 5G with Sonatel and YAS[10]. An administrative intranet connects over 900 government buildings, and projects like Wimax and CDMA enhance access in remote areas. Data hosting is advancing with high-standard facilities such as Sonatel's Tier III+ data center and the national Diamniadio Datacenter. The education sector is benefiting from digital transformation (distance learning, virtual classrooms, SIMEN platforms). The telecom regulator ARTP has liberalized infrastructure sharing and USSD access to non-operators, promoting mobile financial services. Licenses have been granted to ISPs and MVNOs to increase competition. SENUM SA leads infrastructure upgrades and maintenance. Initiatives like PRODAP[11] (digital government), PAENS[12] (digital economy acceleration), and Smart Senegal (Praia–Senegal cable) further support progress. The Digital Technology

Park (PTN)[13] in Diamniadio is being built as a major innovation hub targeting 140,000 direct and indirect jobs. Finally, the country is working to strengthen SENIX[14] and inject new bandwidth through the Share cable.

- *Challenges*

Developing inclusive ICT infrastructure in Senegal still faces major challenges. Telecom operators are burdened by high customs duties on equipment and smartphones, limiting

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[10] https://www.yas.sn/

[11] https://senegalnumeriquesa.sn/en/projets/prodap

[12] https://paens.sn/

[13] https://www.ptn.sn/en

[14] https://senix.sn/

investment and access for users. Tax exemptions could boost mobile coverage and digital inclusion. Additional hurdles include high spectrum fees, restricted access to infrastructure sites, and public resistance to antenna installation due to health concerns—highlighting the need for national awareness campaigns. Infrastructure maintenance, modernization, and expansion remain uneven, especially in rural areas. Persistent issues also include low interoperability between public and private networks, reliance on external funding, and territorial inequalities in access to digital services—limiting the effectiveness of current infrastructure strategies

- *Future priorities*

Senegal aims to position digital infrastructure as a unifying force for inclusion and development, aligned with **PRP-2** of the Technological New Deal. A key focus will be on the **optimal operation, maintenance, and extension** of the country's digital infrastructure, notably through the **nationwide deployment of fiber optic networks** to cover all departments by 2034. The strategy also includes the **expansion of 4G coverage** and the **launch of 5G** in strategic high-impact zones. In parallel, the country plans to establish a **sovereign national data center**, supported by regional hosting facilities, to enhance digital sovereignty. Lastly, **community connectivity hubs** will be deployed in underserved areas to promote equitable access to digital services.

3. Action Line C3: Access to information and knowledge

- *Achievements*

Senegal is committed to building an inclusive, secure, and people-centered information society. The country has established 49 Community Multimedia Centers (CMCs), combining community radios and cyberspaces, to bridge the digital divide in rural areas. Hundreds of schools and religious institutions have been equipped with multimedia labs through various projects (USAID/EDB, SENUM, SANKORE, TEAM 9). The Universal Telecommunications Service Fund (FDSUT[15]) supports connectivity in remote zones via pilot projects like CSU SA[16] in Matam, living labs, and early childhood centers. **HandiConnect promotes digital inclusion for persons with disabilities**. The education sector is undergoing digital transformation with the SIMEN platform, supported by tools such as PLANETE, MIRADOR, and PROMET. The "Digital Resources for All" project earned Senegal the 2018 ISESCO Prize. Gender equality is promoted through initiatives like "Girls in ICT." The "Sénégal Services" single-window system enables access to public services via an online portal and connected service centers in 45 departments. The Smart Education program modernized universities and schools with virtual studios, live classrooms, and full Wi-Fi coverage. ARTP launched the "ARTP Sama Réseau" app to assess network quality through crowdsourcing. Senegalservices.sn is being revamped for better system interoperability. SENUM SA has identified 973 procedures to be digitized, with several shifting to SaaS-based management. The New Technological Deal and PAENS aim to build a government

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[15] https://fdsut.sn/

[16] https://www.hayo.sn/

enterprise architecture, introduce a national digital identity, and offer e-payment platforms to enhance information access and digital public service delivery.

- *Challenges*

Equitable access to digital information remains a critical challenge to prevent large segments of the population from being left behind. The limited promotion of existing digital platforms reduces their effectiveness, especially among people with low literacy or disabilities. Many public services still lack user-friendly, accessible interfaces and rarely incorporate local languages into digital content. This disconnect between digital tools and citizens' real needs hinders inclusion. Additionally, a weak culture of proactive transparency persists in some government entities, affecting the quality and openness of public information. To ensure democratic access to knowledge, content must be adapted to user capabilities, localized access must be expanded, and digital mediation must be strengthened at the community level.

- *Future priorities*

As part of the Technological New Deal, Senegal aims to revolutionize access to information and knowledge by enhancing **process automation** and **collaborative governance** across public entities. Key upcoming initiatives include the development of a **unified eServices portal** that will be multilingual, mobile-friendly, and serve as a one-stop gateway to all public services and open government data. Additionally, the government plans to **provide educational and administrative content translated into national languages** to ensure inclusive access. Finally, Senegal will **mainstream Open Data practices** across ministries and public agencies to promote transparency, innovation, and civic engagement. → References: PRP-5, PRP-6 and PRP-12.

4. Action Line C4: Capacity building

- *Achievements*

Senegal has made major investments in integrating ICT into its education system at all levels. Schools have been equipped with digital tools, and teachers trained in their use. Flagship projects like Sankoré, USAID/EDB, E-school, TEAM9, and SYSGER have supported this effort. The Cheikh Hamidou Kane Digital University (Un-CHK)[17], a pioneer in e-learning, hosts over 65,000 students, runs 18 Open Digital Spaces (ENO), and offers programs in AI, cybersecurity, and robotics. Initiatives like SIMEN, PROMET, and GEPS have modernized education management. The Campusen platform digitized university admissions. The 1millioncoders.gouv.sn platform, led by SENUM SA, aims to train citizens in coding skills. Fablabs offer youth access to advanced technologies. SENUM's Digital Academy provides certified training for civil servants and the public. The ENCVR trains African actors in cybersecurity. Pan-African tele-education, Smart Education, and DigitalEduc projects enhanced access to content. Gender-focused initiatives like "Girls in ICT" promote inclusion. The government has also launched training and e-service platforms via ENO centers, the Senegalservices.sn portal, and the PRODAP and PAENS programs

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[17] https://www.unchk.sn/

to structure digital skills development and public administration modernization.

- *Challenges*

Digital capacity building in Senegal faces major obstacles, including a persistent shortage of qualified trainers in key areas such as AI, cybersecurity, and cloud computing. The lack of a national framework for recognizing digital certifications limits the value of acquired skills. Training programs remain largely inaccessible in disadvantaged areas, deepening territorial inequalities. Furthermore, there is limited post-training support and few pathways to professional integration. Promoting a culture of lifelong learning and accessible certification pathways is crucial. A citizen-centered digital literacy policy—particularly in national languages—is needed to broaden ICT adoption. Lastly, retaining skilled technical talent in public institutions remains a major challenge in high-demand fields.

- *Future priorities*

To address the digital skills gap, Senegal is set to implement an ambitious capacity-building strategy. This includes the **annual training of 100,000 digital talents** and **5,000 certified experts** in key areas such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and blockchain. A **national training ecosystem** will be built around a **Digital Academy** and **regional training hubs** to promote geographic inclusivity. Additionally, a **national accreditation and certification system** for digital skills will be introduced to ensure official recognition of training pathways and enhance employability.

→ Reference: PRP-7 (Digital Talents)

5. Action Line C5: Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs

- *Achievements*

Since 2008, Senegal has established a robust legal framework for ICT development through laws on electronic transactions, cybercrime, personal data protection, and cryptology. A National Cybersecurity Strategy (SNC2022) was adopted, based on five objectives including the protection of critical infrastructure and capacity building. The DCSSI is the national cybersecurity authority, tasked with coordination, standardization, and protection of state information systems. SENUM SA contributes to digital security with internationally compliant solutions, while the Data Protection Commission (CDP) regulates personal data use. Senegal has ratified key international conventions, such as the Malabo and Budapest Conventions, and aligned with ECOWAS directives. The CDP actively protects citizens' rights against digital abuse and supervises data use during elections. The PRODAP program drives practical cybersecurity efforts within public administration. Tools like CADARCA enhance cyberattack detection and response. The co-regulation partnership between ARTP and CDP reflects a shared oversight approach. Lastly, the ongoing revision of the data protection law aims to align Senegal with international standards and reinforce digital trust. Senegal have launched in partnership with ONUDC the Protection Plan of Children Online.

- *Challenges*

Digital trust remains a major challenge in Senegal amid rising cyber threats. The country's

cybersecurity maturity level is still limited, with a weak security culture especially among SMEs. There is a shortage of skilled human resources for incident response, reducing national capacity to handle threats. While legal frameworks on cybersecurity and data protection exist, they are only partially enforced and remain poorly understood by both citizens and businesses. Raising awareness of cyber risks and popularizing the relevant legal provisions are essential. Strengthening cyber resilience, fully adopting privacy legislation, and expanding local expertise are critical to building a secure and trusted digital environment.

- *Future priorities*

    To foster digital trust and ensure user security, Senegal has outlined several major initiatives under the New Technological Deal. A **National Cybersecurity Center** will be established, interconnected with regional CERTs and critical ministries, to coordinate incident responses and enhance national resilience. A **National Digital Resilience Strategy** will also be adopted, focusing on **data sovereignty**, **critical infrastructure protection**, and **cybersecurity for public services**. Additionally, the country will deploy a **secure biometric e-ID system** and a **national authentication framework** to ensure the safe use of digital services. → Reference: PRP-3 (Sovereignty and Cybersecurity)

6. Action Line C6: Enabling environment

- *Achievements*

    Since 2001, Senegal has undertaken major institutional reforms by establishing key entities such as the Ministry of ICT, ADIE (now SENUM SA), ARTP, the CDP, and the Universal Service Fund (FDSUT). This was reinforced by the adoption of key ICT laws in 2008 and the 2018 Electronic Communications Code. Additional decrees support e-commerce, cryptology, and personal data protection. The Digital Senegal 2025 Strategy (SN2025) led to structural reforms, including the creation of the National Digital Council, support for universal access, and revision of the 2008 laws. SENUM SA promotes shared ICT infrastructure through a portfolio of strategic projects: a government ERP system, interoperability platform, national cloud, unique citizen ID, and datacenter development. These initiatives aim to optimize resources, strengthen digital sovereignty, and improve public services. Meanwhile, ARTP has adjusted its regulatory framework to support MVNOs like Sirius Telecom, including tariff asymmetry and market monitoring. Despite challenges such as the absence of an up-to-date infrastructure map, a strong momentum is underway through public-private partnerships and stakeholder collaboration to advance digital government transformation.

- *Challenges*

    Despite ongoing digitalization efforts, the administrative environment remains characterized by slow procedures, hindering the efficiency of public services and the agility required to support innovation. Young digital enterprises struggle to access the financing necessary for their growth due to support mechanisms that are poorly adapted to their needs. This mismatch between public support systems and on-the-ground realities limits the emergence of local digital champions. Moreover, the current regulatory framework does not always keep pace with technological innovation, creating legal grey areas that deter investment and experimentation.

A more flexible, agile, and communicative approach is needed to foster an environment truly conducive to the development of the digital economy.

- *Future priorities*

The success of the digital transformation process hinges on a clear, consistent, and enabling framework. As part of the Technological New Deal, Senegal will **fully implement the Startup Act**, introducing measures such as **national startup labeling**, **reduced taxation**, and **enhanced support mechanisms** for innovation. In addition, the country plans to establish a **sovereign digital investment fund**, in collaboration with **public banks**, the **private sector**, and the **Senegalese diaspora**, to finance strategic digital initiatives. A comprehensive **revision of regulatory frameworks** is also underway, including laws on **digital governance**, **data protection**, and **electronic transactions**, to ensure a secure and modern legal environment. *References: PRP-9 (Investments and funding)*

7. Action Line C7: ICT applications: E-government, e-business, e-learning, e-health, etc.

- *Achievements*

Since 2001, Senegal has launched major digital reforms, creating institutions such as ADIE (now SENUM SA), ARTP, and CDP, alongside the adoption of key laws on personal data, electronic transactions, and cybersecurity. The legal framework was reinforced through the Digital Senegal 2025 Strategy and the Electronic Communications Code.

Public administration has undergone large-scale digitization with platforms like GIRAFE (HR management), SIGFIP, ASTER, SIGTAS (tax), GAINDE (customs), and SIGIF (integrated finance), as well as a centralized portal for public services (servicepublic.gouv.sn). Over 40 e-services are online, with nearly 100 awaiting approval.

In health, Senegal is advancing e-health solutions (m-Diabetes, telemedicine, medical e-learning, hospital information systems) to improve care access and quality. The African Telemedicine Center is operational at Fann University Hospital. E-commerce is growing with over 60 platforms, digital payment tools, supportive 2008 legislation, and a national strategy backed by UNCTAD. La Poste has launched its own e-commerce solution.
The transition to Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) was carried out via EXCAF and TDS-SA, achieving 92% population coverage. The National Digital Addressing Project aims to map the entire territory to improve tax collection, logistics, urban planning, and e-commerce.

SENUM SA leads flagship projects: government ERP, interoperability, sovereign cloud, national digital ID, cybersecurity, and data centers. It is also restructuring around AI, Big Data, IoT, and geomatics.
During COVID-19, SENUM SA ensured state continuity with collaborative platforms, secure teleworking, and digital support to crisis funds and public services. Sector-specific roadmaps (e-health, e-education, e-agriculture…) are underway under the

coordination of the Ministry of Digital Affairs to position Senegal as a sovereign and inclusive African digital leader.

- *Challenges*

Digital transformation of public administration in Senegal is advancing, but key structural challenges remain. Government platforms face inconsistent technical reliability (e.g. outages, slow performance), and public adoption remains low due to lack of awareness, mistrust, or insufficient digital literacy. Fragmentation of systems—caused by the absence of a unified ID or shared data standards—hampers interoperability between ministries and local governments. To offer more coherent public services, the State must adopt common standards for IT architecture, design, and management. A unified and inclusive digital governance framework is essential to build a user-centered, efficient, and interconnected administration.

- *Future priorities*

  - *C7. E-Government*

    - As part of the Technological New Deal, Senegal aims to fully digitize public services by 2030, including key sectors such as health, education, justice, and civil registration. The launch of the National Digital One-Stop Shop will ensure inclusive, centralized, and simplified access to these services. SENUM SA will support this shift by providing shared public digital infrastructures, facilitating information sharing, and integrating collaborative tools into government systems to enhance coordination and service delivery. → References: PRP-5, PRP-6*]*

  - *C7. E-Business*

    - Senegal plans to boost informal digital entrepreneurship through tailored platforms such as e-finance and digital marketplaces. The government also aims to operationalize the **Startup Act**, offering tax incentives, national startup labeling, and access to funding. A sovereign digital investment fund will also be created to support innovation ecosystems and drive digital economic growth. → Reference: PRP-12*]*

  - *C7. E-Learning*

    - The country will deploy a National Digital Academy and regional training centers, as well as offer 100,000 annual digital training opportunities and 5,000 certified expert programs in fields such as cybersecurity, AI, and cloud computing. These should be complemented by a national accreditation system and digital content translated into local languages.

      → Reference: PRP-7

  - *C7. E-Health*

    - Health services will be fully digitized and integrated into the national one-stop platform by 2030, improving patient data management, coordination across

institutions, and access to care. A strong emphasis will be placed on interoperability and the secure handling of medical records.
→ Reference: PRP-6

- o *C7. E-Employment*

    - The deployment of the Digital Talent Plan will help connect training programs to employment opportunities by mapping job needs, integrating work-study programs, and promoting public-private partnerships. Platforms supporting remote work and digital freelancing will also be developed to respond to evolving labor markets.

        → Reference: PRP-7

- o *C7. E-Environment*

    - Earth observation data, through Senegal's new satellite GaindéSat and the African Space Agency, will enable real-time monitoring of natural resources. These tools, integrated into national environmental information systems, will support climate resilience and sustainable development policies.
    → Reference: PRP-11

- o *C7. E-Agriculture*

    - Digital tools will enhance agricultural value chains through e-agriculture platforms, mobile-based advisory services, digital cadastral systems, and real-time climate data. These innovations will empower farmers, improve productivity, and optimize land use management.
    → Reference: PRP-11

- o *C7. E-Science*

    - Senegal's scientific ambition is supported by the launch of its nanosatellite and the promotion of data science, AI, and space technologies. These efforts aim to foster local research, knowledge production, and integration into continental and global scientific networks.

        → Reference: PRP-11

8. Action Line C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity, and local content

- *Achievements*:

Cultural and linguistic diversity is a cornerstone of Senegal's digital development strategy. The country has committed to enhancing its cultural industries by leveraging digital technologies to promote an inclusive information society. This commitment is reflected in an enabling regulatory framework, including the 2002 law on film and audiovisual activities, the 2008 law

on copyright and neighboring rights, and the creation of SODAV[18] to manage collective cultural rights.

On the ground, several initiatives have emerged: virtual art galleries (e-galleries), access to e-books, and efforts to develop regional e-libraries by equipping cultural centers, inspired by the "American Corners" model in Louga, Thiès, and Ziguinchor. These projects aim to democratize knowledge, bring culture closer to citizens, and improve access to educational content, particularly in rural areas.

In parallel, Senegal recognizes the strategic importance of local languages in ensuring digital inclusion. SENUM SA, in partnership with innovative players such as GalSene AI[19] and JANGAT[20], is working on developing linguistic corpora, localized digital platforms, and inclusive tools that integrate native languages into the digital ecosystem. This approach seeks to eliminate language barriers, empower non-francophone communities, and ensure that digital transformation reflects the country's social and cultural realities. Digital tools are thus positioned as drivers of social cohesion, territorial inclusion, cultural identity promotion, and the amplification of local voices. Diversity becomes a true engine of transformation.

- *Challenges*:

Cultural and linguistic diversity remains a key challenge in building an inclusive digital society. No segment of the population should be left behind. It is essential to mobilize all human and cultural resources by valuing local knowledge and skills. Effective communication is crucial to engaging even the most skeptical communities. SENUM SA recommends the systematic integration of local languages into digital content development, along with tailored support to help communities adapt to digital change. However, challenges persist: there is limited ongoing digital production in local languages, a lack of standardized local writing systems for digital tools, insufficient funding for digital cultural initiatives, and limited Internet access in culturally peripheral regions.

- *Future priorities*:

Senegal sees ICTs as a **powerful driver of social cohesion and cultural exchange**, strengthening connections between peoples. Through SENUM SA, efforts are underway to create **digital platforms that integrate local languages**, while improving overall user experience. Under the New Technological Deal, several major initiatives are planned: the **development of an AI-based linguistic corpus** for major Senegalese languages (Wolof, Pulaar, Serer...) to train African language models; **support for digital cultural startups and initiatives**, including the digitization of archives, virtual museums, and local audiovisual platforms; and the **promotion of**

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[18] https://www.lasodav.sn/web/la-sodav

[19] https://galsen.ai/

[20] https://www.assistant.jangat-ai.com/

multilingual local digital content creation. These efforts aim to build an inclusive digital transformation rooted in the country's rich cultural diversity.

9. Action Line C9: Media

- *Achievements*

The transition to Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT), launched in 2015, aims to improve audiovisual content quality and diversity, with 91% demographic and 89% geographic coverage rates.
Senegal has a pluralistic media landscape, with around 400 press outlets (print, online, and audiovisual), governed by the 2017 Press Code.
A major regulatory reform is underway: the finalization of the law creating the High Authority for Audiovisual Regulation (HARCA), and decrees on press aid, training standards, sales transparency, and recognition of prior learning. The State provides an annual press subsidy of 700 million CFA francs; 257 outlets have benefited, including community radios and news websites.
For the 2019 presidential election, 600 press cards were issued, and 350 million CFA francs were granted to public media. A satellite digital television project with China brought equipment to 300 villages and trained over 600 young people.
Planned actions include pricing for TDS broadcasting, a national media strategy, a media observatory, revised audiovisual fees, archive digitization, and modernization of production tools. Online media development continues to enhance freedom of expression, and HAYO services enable Internet radio broadcasting. Capacity-building forums organized by ARTP with journalists have strengthened understanding of the telecom and postal regulation landscape. These initiatives support the emergence of a strong, diverse, competitive media industry that contributes to economic growth and sustainable employment.

- *Challenges*

The rise of ICTs is profoundly reshaping the media landscape, making media actors essential players in awareness, education, and the promotion of civic values. Senegal acknowledges the crucial role of media—especially community radios, local television, and digital content platforms—in advancing digital development.
Yet significant challenges remain: regulation of digital content is limited, particularly in addressing disinformation and hate speech; guaranteeing the independence of digital media is difficult; community media remain vulnerable and under-resourced; and local online media initiatives struggle to access sustainable funding.

- *Future priorities*

In Senegal, media outlets are seen as **strategic players in promoting ICTs and fostering a digital culture**. Their role as a communication bridge makes them key tools in informing, educating, and supporting the country's digital transformation. As part of the New Technological Deal, several major initiatives are planned: **supporting community radio stations, local television**

channels, and digital content platforms in their digital transition; **establishing a fund to support citizen-driven and innovative digital media**; and **developing a code of ethics for digital journalism** to combat disinformation. These measures aim to build a resilient, inclusive media ecosystem grounded in democratic values.

10. Action Line C10: Ethical dimensions of the Information Society

- *Achievements*

Senegal has established a Data Protection Commission (CDP) to regulate data use. Steps are underway to create a national CERT to respond to cyberattacks. A cybersecurity partnership has been signed with the Netherlands. In the media sector, self-regulation is ensured by CORED, replacing the former CRED. The 2017 Press Code strengthens ethical and professional standards in journalism.

- *Challenges*

The information society offers a key opportunity to promote core values, strengthen civic education, and foster social inclusion. However, in Senegal, the ethical framework surrounding digital transformation remains underdeveloped. There is currently no national framework specifically addressing the ethics of artificial intelligence or algorithms. Moreover, no monitoring mechanisms are in place to prevent potential abuses, such as mass surveillance or algorithmic discrimination. Finally, developers and policymakers are still insufficiently aware of the ethical challenges posed by digital technologies.

- *Future priorities*

Senegal places ICTs at the center of a vision rooted in **awareness-building, civility, and education in digital values**. Technologies should foster responsible use that respects privacy and fundamental rights.
As part of the New Technological Deal, Senegal plans to **adopt a National Charter on Digital Ethics**, covering issues related to AI, personal data, surveillance, and automated systems; **establish an independent, multidisciplinary National Digital Ethics Committee**; and **train developers, engineers, and policymakers in ethical technology principles**. These initiatives aim to build a digital society grounded in responsibility, transparency, and respect for human rights.

11. Action Line C11: International and regional cooperation

- *Achievements*

For over 20 years, Senegal has received steady support from technical and financial partners to develop its digital ecosystem. With backing from the Digital Solidarity Fund proposed by our former President H.E. Abdoulaye WADE during the Geneva Action Plan in 2003, UNCTAD, China, Korea, USAID, UNDP, Canada, the EU, ICF, the World Bank, and the AfDB, numerous projects have been launched, including CHAT, tele-education centers, the unified civil service database, and the e-Tax platform. India has also contributed with telemedicine through the Pan-African

e-network. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation (Francophonie, ITU, AU, ECOWAS...) is key to the sector's development. The Free Roaming project, promoted by Smart Africa, fosters regional integration in West Africa. The national internet exchange point (SENIX), inaugurated in 2017, strengthens digital sovereignty. The country benefits from strong connectivity through submarine cables (ACE, MAINE ONE, SAT3) and aims for 5620 Gbps by 2025. SENUM SA is building regional partnerships (Benin, Niger, Gambia...) and promoting infrastructure sharing. A frequency coordination framework was adopted in 2009 with neighboring countries to prevent interference. Franco-Senegalese cooperation enabled the creation of the Regional Cybersecurity School. Senegal plays a key role in global forums such as WSIS, IGF, AI for Good, and Smart Africa, which it frequently participates, sometimes organizes or co-hosts the African versions.

- *Challenges*

Information and communication technologies should serve to bring nations closer, break down barriers, and strengthen relational proximity through enhanced international collaboration. To achieve this, it is vital to establish strategic mechanisms and partnerships to facilitate access to international funding for digital acceleration. SENUM SA must also reinforce its presence and influence on regional and global platforms. However, Senegal still faces key challenges: difficulty in integrating the outcomes of cooperation into national policies, underutilization of the strategic benefits derived from international forums and projects, insufficient coordination with digital diplomatic representations abroad, and excessive dependency on certain donors for implementing its digital transformation agenda.

- *Future priorities*

Senegal is advancing an ambitious digital diplomacy strategy to foster African integration and assert its leadership in the regional digital space. ICTs, including artificial intelligence, are seen as key enablers to unite communities and jointly address development challenges.
Under its New Technological Deal, Senegal aspires to become a **sub-regional digital hub** by securing **strategic partnerships** in critical areas such as **cybersecurity**, **data centers**, **digital talent development**, and **responsible AI**. The country also hosts **international events in Dakar** to promote digital diplomacy and strengthen its global visibility.

III.	National Strategies and Policy Documents

Please provide details on national strategies, policies, and frameworks that have been implemented to achieve WSIS goals over the last 20 years, including:

1. National Digital Strategy/Policy

- Please provide details of any national strategy or policy for ICT development and digital

transformation.

For nearly two decades, Senegal has recognized digital technology as a key driver of national development. As early as 2005, ICTs were designated as a **priority growth sector** under the **Accelerated Growth Strategy (SCA)**, aimed at boosting high-potential economic sectors. ICTs were seen as a catalyst for economic modernization, productivity, and job creation. This vision was reinforced with the adoption of the **Senegal Digital Strategy 2025 (SN2025)** in 2016, which served as a comprehensive roadmap structured around five pillars: e-government, universal access, broadband infrastructure, digital services and content, and ecosystem development. It enabled the launch of key projects such as national fiber deployment, digitalization of public services, and institutional modernization. In 2023, Senegal entered a new phase with the launch of the **New Technological Deal**, a bold and inclusive digital strategy structured around **12 Priority Reference Programs (PRPs)**. It aims to transform public services, ensure universal connectivity, strengthen cybersecurity, develop digital talents, foster local innovation, and elevate Senegal's role in digital diplomacy. A strategic steering body has been established under the Prime Minister's Office to oversee the implementation.

These strategies are supported by a modern legal and regulatory framework (digital society law, data protection law, Startup Act), and by a multi-stakeholder approach involving private sector, local authorities, and civil society. They prioritize territorial equity, interoperability, accessibility, and digital sovereignty.

2. Strategic Documents/Plans

- List any key national reports or strategies that have aligned with WSIS Action Lines.

  Over the past two decades, Senegal has implemented several strategies aligned with the WSIS Action Lines (C1 to C11), reflecting its commitment to ICT as a driver of inclusive and multisectoral transformation.

  - ➤ Accelerated Growth Strategy (SCA, 2005): recognized ICT as a catalyst for inclusive growth, supporting WSIS lines such as C2, C3, C4, C7, and C8.
  - ➤ Senegal Digital Strategy 2025 (SN2025): adopted in 2016, this comprehensive digital policy focused on infrastructure, services, digital content, capacity building, and trust—aligned with C2, C4, C6, C7, and C10.
  - ➤ The Technological New Deal (2023): currently Senegal's national strategy, structured around 12 Priority Reference Programs (PRPs), fully addressing WSIS Action Lines C1 to C11. It promotes digital inclusion, sovereignty, cybersecurity, open data, ethics, and digital talent with high-level coordination under the Prime Minister.
  - ➤ Vision Senegal 2050 (2024): the country's long-term development vision, emphasizes ICTs and digital transformation for sustainability and equity. Compared to the PSE, it better integrates artificial intelligence, data-driven governance, digital public services, and cybersecurity—aligned with C1, C2, C4, C6, C7, C10, and C11.

In addition to these major strategies, Senegal has developed specific sectoral and thematic frameworks in line with WSIS goals:

  ➢ Territorial Digital Master Plan (SDNT): ensures inclusive territorial connectivity and equitable access to digital services (C2, C3, C7).
  ➢ Digital Health Strategic Plan: promotes e-health in public health structures and supports telemedicine and interoperability (C7, C5, C4).
  ➢ National Sustainable Development Strategy: encourages ICT use for environmental governance and climate resilience (C7 e-environment, C11).
  ➢ National Artificial Intelligence Strategy (ongoing): supports ethical and responsible AI development across priority sectors (C7, C10, C11).
  ➢ National Data Strategy: strengthens data governance, openness, and protection to boost transparency and innovation (C6, C10).
  ➢ National e-Commerce Development Strategy: promotes e-commerce adoption among SMEs and builds trust in digital transactions (C7 e-business, C3).
  ➢ Digital Strategy for Vocational Training: fosters upskilling through e-learning platforms, certifications, and digital content (C4, C7 e-learning).

3. Implementation of WSIS Mandates

- Explain how the country has ensured that WSIS mandates are incorporated into national development goals.

Senegal has progressively and coherently integrated the mandates of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) into its national development priorities since 2003. This integration is based on four main pillars: strategic alignment, institutional governance, multisectoral operational implementation, and structured multi-stakeholder coordination.

Strategic Alignment:

Major national strategies such as "Sénégal Numérique 2025," the "New Technological Deal," and "Sénégal 2050" are fully aligned with the WSIS objectives. These frameworks translate the WSIS Action Lines (C1 to C11) into national policies in synergy with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring coherence between international commitments and local priorities.
Institutional   Governance:
Several institutions have been established or strengthened to oversee and regulate the information society, including Sénégal Numérique SA, the Personal Data Protection Commission (CDP), the Directorate of ICT, the National Digital Council, and the WSIS Coordination Unit within the Ministry of Digital Affairs.

Operational Implementation:

Concrete programs have been launched, such as the national fiber optic backbone, administrative e-services, cybersecurity, e-education, e-health, digital skills training,

digitalization, and interoperability of information systems. These initiatives are shaping a gradual transition toward an inclusive, resilient, and sovereign digital society.

Structured Multi-Stakeholder Coordination:

Since 2015, a National WSIS Committee has been active, with its structure formalized by a ministerial decree in 2019. This committee brings together representatives from the public sector, private sector, academia, researchers, regulators, documentalists, civil society actors, and youth.

Each WSIS Action Line is represented by sectoral ambassadors embedded in institutions and organizations, ensuring cross-cutting monitoring of implementation. The committee plays a key role in coordination, reporting, self-evaluation of progress, and preparation of Senegal's contributions to international WSIS platforms.

Finally, Senegal actively engages in the global WSIS agenda—WSIS Forum, AI for Good, IGF, Smart Africa—ensuring continuity between global goals and national realities.

IV.	Key Indicators of Progress

Provide key data or indicators that demonstrate the country's progress toward achieving WSIS goals (e.g. percentage of the population with internet access, mobile penetration, percentage of government services available online, number of broadband connections, cybersecurity initiatives, digital skills training, etc.)

- **Internet Access**: Internet penetration exceeds 88%, driven by widespread 4G deployment and expanding infrastructure. 5G deployment is being prepared in key zones.
- **Mobile Penetration**: The mobile penetration rate is over 115%, with nearly complete national coverage.
- **Online Public Services**: Over 100 administrative services are accessible via the **service-public.sn** portal. Full digitalization is targeted by 2030.
- **Digital Infrastructure**: 4,470 km of backbone fiber has been deployed. Goal: 100% departmental coverage by 2034. International bandwidth exceeds 2,220 Gbps (targeting 5,620 Gbps by 2025).
- **Cybersecurity**: The **Data Protection Commission** is operational. A **National Cybersecurity Center** is in development. Senegal is part of global CERT coordination networks.
- **Digital Skills Training**: The national objective is to train 100,000 digital talents and 5,000 certified experts annually through the **Digital Academy** and regional hubs.
- **E-Commerce**: A national e-commerce strategy supports SMEs, promotes inclusivity for youth and women, and strengthens regulatory oversight.
- **Local Innovation**: Over 300 startups receive support from incubators like **PTN**, **CTIC Dakar**, and **Senegal Connect Park**.

- **Open Data & Interoperability**: An open data policy is being rolled out. A **National Interoperability Framework** is under development to harmonize public systems.
- **Digital Diplomacy**: Senegal plays a visible international role as a member of the **ITU Council**, chair of **ARTAO**, and contributor to global conversations on AI ethics and digital governance.

V. Challenges and Gaps

Please identify key barriers or challenges the country has faced in implementing WSIS mandates and achieving desired outcomes.

- **Weak interinstitutional coordination**: Responsibilities are often fragmented across multiple ministries, agencies, and entities, leading to duplication and delays in the implementation of digital policies.
- **Lack of continuity in strategy implementation**: Institutional and political changes affect the stability of long-term plans, as seen in the transition from the "Sénégal Numérique 2025" strategy to the "New Technological Deal".
- **Dependence on external funding**: A significant portion of ICT projects relies on support from technical and financial partners, which compromises sustainability in the event of withdrawal or shifting priorities.
- **Persistent territorial inequalities**: Significant gaps remain in access to digital infrastructure between urban and rural areas, despite the development of fiber optics.
- **Low system interoperability**: Many public information systems remain fragmented, with few shared standards or unique user identifiers.
- **Shortage of qualified human resources**: Especially in advanced fields such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and cloud computing, with a lack of trainers and limited attractiveness of the public sector.
- **Limited access to services for vulnerable groups**: People with disabilities, low literacy levels, or living in remote areas face linguistic, technological, or economic barriers.
- **Low local ownership of ICT policies**, particularly at the level of local governments, which often lack the technical capacity to implement digital services.
- **Outdated legal and regulatory frameworks**: These often fail to keep pace with technological innovations, hindering experimentation, public-private partnerships, and the emergence of digital startups.
- **Lack of awareness of digital ethical issues**: Particularly in the use of AI, personal data management, and cybersecurity, where regulatory mechanisms are still being developed.

VI. Future Directions and Areas for Collaboration and Vision Beyond 2025

Please outline the country's vision for the future of WSIS beyond 2025 and identify areas where collaboration with stakeholders could further accelerate progress.

Senegal envisions a sovereign, inclusive, and innovation-driven digital future beyond 2025, building on the momentum of its "New Technological Deal". This national vision is anchored in digital sovereignty, territorial equity, responsible innovation, and participatory governance.

Senegal's strategic goals for the post-2025 WSIS era:

- Establish Senegal as a regional digital hub, especially in AI, cybersecurity, and sovereign digital services.
- Integrate ICT across all sustainable development sectors, including education, health, agriculture, environment, employment, and culture.
- Promote a localized and inclusive digital ecosystem, with local language integration and access for rural and vulnerable communities.
- Advance digital diplomacy, leveraging ICT for South-South cooperation and strategic influence.
- Institutionalize digital ethics, with legal frameworks for AI, cybersecurity, and data protection.

Priority areas for multi-stakeholder collaboration:

- Capacity building: partnerships with academia, tech companies, and NGOs to train 100,000 digital talents and 5,000 certified experts per year.
- Investment in digital infrastructure: collaboration with donors, the private sector, and the diaspora to accelerate fiber deployment, data centers, and 5G.
- Inclusive innovation: support for cultural tech startups, multilingual platforms, civic media, and public AI research with African contexts.
- Interoperability and open data: technical cooperation to unify public platforms and ensure access to open and reliable data.
- Cybersecurity and digital sovereignty: regional coalitions for expertise sharing, incident response, and tool mutualization.
- Strategic governance: support the implementation of an inter-ministerial digital governance body, anchored at the Prime Minister's Office.

Please provide details and contact information for the Ministry/Agency responsible for WSIS Follow-Up

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