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***Cities at the Vanguard: Migration and the Metropolis***

**El Puente Academy for Peace and Justice**

**Senegalese Delegation**

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## **INTRODUCTION:**

El Puente Academy of Peace and Justice is a school born from community organizers that promotes leadership for peace and justice through the engagement of members (youth and adult) in the arts, education, scientific research, wellness and environmental action. Founded in 1982, El Puente currently integrates the diverse activities and community campaigns of its Center for Arts and Culture and its Community Health and Environment Institute. Organizing in North Brooklyn and beyond, El Puente remains at the forefront of community/youth learning and development issues and as such, initiates and impacts social policy both locally and nationally. El Puente Academy of Peace and Justice takes great pride in being able to represent the country of Senegal in a manner that will not only help to improve current situations, but ignite change through our institutional goals – peace and justice.

## **KEY POINTS:**

- 1) Ensure the safety of all migrants and transit migrants in Senegal
- 2) Support France in the processing and development of migrants traveling through Senegal to reach Europe.
- 3) Develop and support the growth of young Senegalese women and men in various fields to ensure the security of the future of Senegal.
- 4) Create international ties for business and educational exchange programs.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Senegal, located on the westernmost point of Africa, serves as a prominent transit route for migrants. With rich heritage and diverse environment, Senegal was long a part of the ancient Ghana and Djolof kingdoms and an important node on trans-Saharan caravan routes. While remaining colonized under France until 1960, Senegal has made strides in gaining independence

and becoming its own sovereign state. Senegal has some of the highest numbers of young women and men who become trafficked, imprisoned and face danger when attempting to embark on the perilous migration journey to Europe. Being one of the most politically stable countries in Africa, Senegal's migrants and other marginalized groups are not excluded from the countries events and are not frowned upon as well. The Senegalese people know the struggles of other migrants as their own family members may have traveled to other countries and told stories of the journey. In return, the natives may have resorted to kinder attitudes with new arriving migrants. Dakar, Senegal will remain one of Africa's most important harbours and an economic and cultural centre for West Africa as a whole. The Senegalese Delegation views migration from a humanizing perspective, bringing into account the struggles of migration (displacement, unsafe living conditions, food insecurity, and social emotional development) on migrants and transit migrants who enter and leave Senegal.

### **CURRENT ISSUES:**

#### ***Committee on Leadership and Governance***

Migrants and the underrepresented groups of Senegal receive great support from their government. Senegal continues to pay taxes to France, and France continues to provide support to the Senegalese government. There was no immigration policy established until April 30, 2018. It was started on April 30, 2015. This policy allows for help with, "challenges linked to migration and to its effects on the social and economic development of the country; on the migrants themselves, and on host communities, as well as communities in transit." (Support to the Government of Senegal to Establish a National Migration Policy). The migrants arriving to Senegal should bring personal information in order to apply for a visa. The visa policy in Senegal states that a person must have a visa and or an identification at all times. The visa is

allowed up until 90 days. After that time, one trespassing and must be dismissed (Senegal Visa Information). Once the visa is obtained, an official card with the persons Senegal citizenship may be issued.

Senegal's migrants have rights supported by the Foreigners Act. This act states that a noncitizen can be imprisoned or get a fine if he or she enters or returns to Senegal after being prohibited from doing so, remains in Senegal without appropriate authorization, or works illegally in Senegal. Senegal ratified the Migrants Workers Convention in 1999, which protects the rights of migrant workers and their families.

Senegal's government interaction with non-state actors such as other cities, NGOs (non-governmental organizations) within the city, and civil society does not pose much of a threat to the migrants' society. However, in 2017, three people were detained for having ties to the terrorist organization ISIS. In response, the Senegalese government worked alongside US military forces to strengthen its own counter-terrorism capabilities (UN Refugees Agency). There are plenty of programs for migrants provided by the EU and many other forms of government assistance. Senegal has been a very constructive actor in the dialogue on migration with the EU, being very active in the Rabat and Valetta processes. In these fora, Senegal has insisted on a balanced approach in line with the five pillars of the Valletta Action Plan, including opportunities for legal migration.

An organization that supports migrants in Senegal is, IOM (International Organization for Migration) working to support the government of Senegal in its effort to strengthen its institutional capacity in the area of labor migration management and expand legal labor and migration opportunities. Another organization that supports Senegalese migrants is UNHCR Senegal Unit. This UN Refugee Agency helps the forcibly displaced since the early 1950's. This

organization leads and coordinates international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. The primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well beings of refugees.

Migrants, both legally recognized and those not legally recognized, hold current policies within Senegal. Everyone remains with the basic human rights and is given the help they need if those resources are available. The goal of the Senegalese government is to protect and help these who come to their borders then get them on to them to their next transit point. Illegal migrants on the other hand can be imprisoned and fined if they enter or return to Senegal even if they were told not to, stay in Senegal without proper authorization, and if they work illegally in Senegal all according to the Foreigners Act. If they are seeking asylum they are allowed to stay.

In Dakar, Senegal if you are an undocumented migrant, if you try to seek for help with the local authorities, they will find out where you are originally from and legally they can either imprison you or send you back to your country. This goes for hospitals to some undocumented migrants, if they get hurt they won't be able to go to the hospital because they don't have the right information to sign in with.(like insurance information) According to both the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), “undocumented immigrants can be held in administrative detention for up to three months while they await deportation”. People who are undocumented once they are found in Dakar can be imprisoned and given a fine if they have done any of the following: Remain in Senegal without appropriate authorization or after the expiration of authorization, Obtain residence authorization by fraudulent means, Work illegally in Senegal, Senegal currently provides identification and documentation for all migrants that are living in Senegal. All of the travelers must hold a visa that allows the person to be there legally for up to 90 days. Re-entry permits are also permitted by Senegal legally. If someone is a citizen and an ID is held, they are allowed to stay as long as

they please. Migrants are required to hold a visa and therefore apply for a passport, photo, application tickets, ID Visa, a citizen host or letter.

### ***Committee on Urban planning***

Senegal's population has doubled in the last few decades, but overall, the people of Senegal are struggling. The population density is 87 per km<sup>2</sup> (225 people per mi<sup>2</sup>). Senegal is ethnically diverse and all residents speak different languages. For example, "The Wolof represents the largest ethnic group at 43%. The Fula and Toucouleur are the second-largest group at 24%, followed by the Serer (14.7%), Jola (4%), Mandinka (3%), Maurers, Bassari, Soninke, and other communities" (Senegal Population Review). There are about 24,000 refugees and asylum seekers, about 50,000 Europeans, and small groups of Vietnamese and Chinese immigrant traders in Senegal. The language they mainly speak is French because France colonized Senegal for years. Yet still, they are so diverse, they speak at least 36 different languages.

In 2010, the number of international migrants is estimated at nearly 2 million people for a total population of 12 million. Population increases by 3.3% every year and in fact, half of the population lives only in Dakar. Migrants either live in or around Dakar area. Depending on where one goes in Senegal is where migrants will stay. There isn't exactly one place where migrants are expected to go. Once they get to Dakar, they must settle on their own. Half of the population is in poverty so they can't expect to live well. They do have roofs made up of iron and walls may be made with bricks, but that is all migrants will live in.

Migrants do not have access to safe housing in Dakar, Senegal. There isn't access to safe housing in Dakar, Senegal because there is barely enough space for them to live in a building. About 75% of the population is in poverty, so migrants would only add to that increase. For

example, “In rural areas dwellings are usually well constructed and roofed with straw, with walls made of either earth or straw. In more-prosperous villages roofs may be made of corrugated iron; the walls may be made of cement brick. Houses in towns are constructed of cement and have roofs either of tile or of corrugated iron; typically, many families are crowded together in these dwellings. Migration from the countryside has expanded the population of urban areas and resulted in the proliferation of shantytowns.” This shows how houses are made in specific areas, but families end up being crowded together. Therefore migrants will only be added to those crowded houses and not be safe in that.

There is a housing shortage because it’s too expensive and the materials needed for it are expensive, but also because their population is growing. For example, “As of 2005, 50.6% of people and 42.6 of families lived below the poverty line. In 2002, the housing shortage in Dakar was 115,000 and 322,000 as a whole country. They have gotten help from co-ops, but it is not enough since most of the population is in poverty.” This means that since 2005 about 50% of people were at the poverty line and half of the country were facing housing shortage. As the year goes by, the population also increases thereby increasing poverty because less resources are available. Housing shortage is increased too because the population is increased and migrants keep coming to Senegal.

Migrants in Dakar do not have adequate access to social welfare programs. Most medical facilities are located in Dakar like hospitals, clinics, maternity homes, and services specializing in diseases. Migrants can get help from The Senegalese Red Cross, the Research Institute Development, and the World Health Organization. However, most of the population utilizes traditional African and Islamic forms of healing because they are more accessible and affordable.

Migrants do have adequate access to transportation. Senegal has a rail system which includes a line from Saint-Louis to Dakar with a branch line running from Louga inland to Linguère, and a line from Dakar to the Niger River at Koulikoro, Mali. Only in Dakar there is an international port. There is an international airport of Dakar-Yoff near Dakar and is served by a number of airlines, including Air Sénégal. Migrants in Senegal are connected to the power grid, it has become available to everyone.

Just over 50% of people in Senegal have access to electricity. Since its population is 15.1 million people, only 651.8 thousand people are being affected due to no or low electricity availability (N.A. Senegal). Electric energy is produced and distributed by the Senegalese Electric Company. Also, as of December 10, 2018 US Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo and Senegalese prime minister Mahammed Boun Abdallah Dionne signed a Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) compact. This will strengthen the power sector and is designed to increase reliability and access to electricity. The Senegal Power Compact is expected to benefit over 12 million people, which includes migrants.

About 75% people have access to basic water source 48% have access to sanitation. Senegal has a strong, reliable telephone system, which is called Sonatel. Senegal became wired for Internet use in 1996 and so both services are still growing. Thanks to The Hunger Project, serves to end hunger and poverty, people in Senegal have access to clean water and 83% of villages have functioning boreholes. They participate in planting trees to help Senegal's environment which also according to The Hunger project, gives women access to wood for cooking rather than traveling to a far distance.

***Committee on Economic Integration***



The city of Dakar, Senegal has a 46.7 percent poverty rate. Senegal is a country who lives in high poverty and gains most of its foreign exchange from phosphates, tourism, fish, and other small services. Senegal, being located in Western Africa, is really hot, humid where its at a point of drought. This overall atmosphere affect the economic state because the agriculture is really weak, thus causing production costs to drop. Some important sectors of the economy of Senegal has to look after is that they can't afford to receive bad stats in tourist organizations, this is because their major import of money because senegal is amazingly beautiful and has many tourist sites.

Refugees and asylum seekers only account for about 6% of the foreign population in Senegal. Of the 14,443 refugees in Senegal, 95% of them are Mauritanians. The large and protracted presence of Mauritanian refugees in Senegal dates back to the 1989 Senegal-Mauritania conflict, when some 53,000 Mauritanians with black African origins were expelled from their homeland. Migrants are being hired by both people within their diaspora and businesses due to the facts that some of the business people know that they are only staying for a short time in Senegal so many businesses need people who will stay there for a good amount of time. In fact, people with their diaspora know what their goal is and most of the time is not to stay in Senegal.

Senegalese migrants are being hired by people of various backgrounds because since many people have been through there and settled their own businesses and when they see migrants that need help they don't mind giving them jobs. However, many Senegalese citizens do not have jobs and are in major crisis as well. Citizens look to migration as a resolve as well.

There has been a large amount of migrants that traveled to Dakar with their own business in mind whether they want to complete it in European countries or to just execute them in

Senegal and companies alike. Although many innovative ideas enter the city everyday, with the economical environment in Senegal, not many of these ideas are made possible. Whether there's a lack of money, many ideas get brought into major countries like France. Like for example "WARI" a company that "offers a wide range of financial and commercial services accessible from virtually anywhere: payments, domestic and international money transfers, airtime top-ups, transportations, services, marketplaces, bill payments, communication. Our aim is to deliver solutions to people's exact needs and desires and to connect them wherever they are, through our digital and physical networks." This company was made by Kabirou Mbodje, a French-Senegalese businessman.

There has been various services or programs that the government has created along with the IOM UN Migration to help migrants find various jobs in Senegal. According to the IOM they say they are doing labour migration management and to expand legal labour migration opportunities. IOM is also implementing programmes that maximize the use of human and financial resources of the Senegalese diaspora for the development of their country. There are unemployment agencies that support migrants with work and government jobs that are available for migrants such as the International Organization for Migration.

After achieving its independence in 1960, the Senegalese population increased and by the 1970s many young people were left without jobs. Therefore, international migration became not only an economic necessity, but also a path to social advancement. While Senegal remains high on the list of "Highest Unemployment Rates", youth unemployment in European countries like Italy where the rate hit 37.9% "Youth Unemployment Rate in EU Member States as of December 2015 rival Senegal's 48% unemployment rate. There are many skilled migrants in Senegal that have various skills whether there are farmers, teachers, engineers, and many

more. They have all passed through Senegal. There are many skilled workers in Senegal who do not have the resources to be able to put their skills to use. Senegal has a 15.70% unemployed rate. Most most of these skilled workers might not have a job at the moment. According to, “Trending Economics, Senegal “Unemployment Rate in Senegal increased to 15.70 percent in the fourth quarter of 2017.” And even though the information was from 2017, the unemployment rate would be going up for a little.

### ***Committee on Social Cohesion***

The migrant population in Senegal grows by one person roughly every 26 minutes. In 19 years, Senegal’s population rank has gone from 79 to 71 (higher number = less people). Women are the dominant percentage in the 2019 population with ~51%, as males are at ~49% (World Population Review). Migrants are interested in coming to Senegal for investments and starting businesses. Transit migrants use Senegal as a halfway point to their destinations, for example, Italy. In regards to religion, the “spirits” may interest young people as well as curious adventurers.

The current relations between the local populace of Dakar and entering migrants could be described as mostly positive and understanding. The Senegalese Delegation found this event that shows the dangers and horrible experiences of Irregular Migration given attention to in Senegal. Recently, on December 10, 2018, “The town hall screenings are part of the campaign. They offer the community and returnee migrants a platform to share their stories since a participatory approach is used and the film is followed by a debate. Those who sit in attendance look clearly stunned by the depth of suffering explained through the testimonies of the returnee migrants.” (Issa). The Town Hall meeting, the very first with a panel and screening of this plays the role of informing the Senegal citizens of the dangers and downfalls of travelling to and from other

countries. There was a 45 minute silence in the hall as the screenings were shown, the debate giving a chance to converse about migration and the backlash of it gives the community a deeper understanding of what their new neighbors may have gone through, leaving the assumption that they will have open minds when dealing with migrants.

One factor that motivates migrants and those that are displaced to come into Senegal is the summer-like temperatures in the country. Senegal is a border of Africa, which helps migrants moving to France, or other areas such as Italy, rest before continuing on. It's high poverty rates may cause "documentors" to travel and make a profit from their films exposing the lives of those living in rural areas under poorer circumstances. The tourist treatment can also be a factor, as booths are set around urging you to purchase items, and a chance to view the harvesting grounds connected to the land. Leaving and returning again, to make investments and start a business is a common occurrence for the Senegalese (Calvarese). The natives leave Senegal in order to bring more profit to their families and find a better life for themselves.

When migrants come into Senegal, the people already there have open minds. The history of Senegal starts with the people from France coming to colonize. The Senegalese people welcomed them with open arms with the assumption that the French were going to help them economically and also make Senegal more of a pleasant area to live. These weak, under-resourced people welcomed them in order to grow in all aspects, and they have been marked as an overall good. The non-violent and compliant Senegalese accept newcomers as being able to provide for the country and bring new advancements and other benefits. The exclusion of migrants is very rare, some Senegalese people have made a website of sorts that helps make the transition between your old home and Dakar easier and a quote from that website is "That's the thing about life in Dakar: the things that drive you crazy will either change or change you."

Sometimes both” (Senegal Daily). The slight humor and relatableness helps this blog make anyone feel like they belong if they were to move to Dakar.

Discrimination in the forms of economic standpoint, occupation, household differences and etc, are almost always a prevalent issue no matter how connected every person may be. Those that enter into Senegal that are under the age of 18 may find it insanely difficult to find a source of income, as the job market does not favor minors. How the people resort to this economic deficiency is by committing to a perilous journey to get to countries such as France and Italy in order to provide for their families. The migrant workers in Senegal got the opportunity to “develop migration policies that are coherent and facilitate respect for migrant rights; adopt strong positions against discrimination against migrant workers as well as taking measures to reduce risks of human rights violations, including opposing widespread detentions and deportations” and etc. (Senegal And The Rights Of Migrant Workers) These factors help to protect out migrant workers in Senegal from any abuse natives may bring on them for their own benefits.

In relation to the migrant community, both documented and undocumented, the policy on assimilation is first noticing the differences in order to adapt to them and accept them. Language barriers may be a temporary cause for exclusion of the persons new community because if you do not speak French, you may be lost. The policy on integration is that the natives may be open to learning about the newcomers background and their beliefs, causing the people and migrants to become a whole and help them join together. Senegal is a democracy and a citizen test would be a good way to involve the migrants in a more official way as “Senegalese arrivals declined dramatically in 2017. The [40%] decrease is seen as a very positive result of the cooperation between the EU and Senegal on migration” (Senegal: bastion of democracy, migration priority

for the EU). The decrease in migrant arrivals lets the migrants that are already on the land become even more adapted and connected. In regards to adaptation, if a woman migrates there, there is a high chance she may actually stay there, as women own many businesses and have the tendency to be a good profit maker for their families. In general, the forms of this adaption comes from observation of the natives. Fitting in is very important to be socially able to not only contribute to the community, but to adapt with your new neighbors.

Religion, especially involving “spirits” is widely appreciative and followed in Senegal. Migrants welcomed into this country may find their interests wild in comparison, as it is assumable that integration would be rather difficult for a male as “the [rab] cult acts as a complementary sphere of social power for women, in contrast to the sphere of male-dominated Islam. In this way, the rab cult fills a space in society that Islam cannot”. (Mueller) This field study focused on the *rab* cult and their horrible doings. Those wishing for negative outcomes will look no further for commotion. The migrants looking for nothing but blessings and hard work may clash with the communities in Senegal that partake in this belief system. The religion’s spirits support women's dominance and it especially helps knowing that Senegal's income is mostly brought in by female representatives.

Theoretically, women may survive better in Senegal than men simply because women have been leading the “businessman” position which brings income, making them an overall superior power holder. Two-thirds of the population of Senegal are males of minority age, meaning the job field his a hardship competition, and they are losing. Women owned businesses hold meetings to advance themselves and give tips to fellow women, keeping them ahead of their game. Women “run many of their own associations, often focused on agriculture or microsavings” (Moser) If the new arriving migrant is a female and is interested in making some

profit, she will fit in well. If a male is under the the of 18, he will probably find it extremely difficult to economically support his family.

The media seems to encourage these perilous journeys as they are quite vague and do not fully explain the hardship and dangers of travelling to a new place for a better future for yourself and your family. If you are classified as a minor, jobs are very difficult for you here in Senegal, but the country, to try to keep their population medium-high, may give a form of “fake news” to speak about how new jobs are opening up as they advance into a more productive country. Just as Senegal censors the internet before a presidential election, and Al Jazeera stated “The Internet is a powerful tool for many in Africa to express their views, but the new law threatens freedom of speech.” (Al Jazeera: Internet Censorship Tightens in Senegal Before Elections). The media censorship may apply to all aspects of Dakar and Senegal as a whole as this presidency scandal. Although the media may block things out, previous family members and others who know people who traveled, get the news going around that the experience of suffering is going under the radar.

Technology is being used so much so, that malaria cases are being reduced. This country has tech labs in use, the idea behind it being: a new society will be born through technology. Women are taking a huge role in promoting technology in this aspect, taking lessons on how to branch out their businesses etc (Akande). The promotion of mobile technology is used to help the community keep their profit. Many other uses of technology can be made in the future or advanced to save money and advance these African countries.

### ***Committee on Health***

In Dakar senegal, USAID’s health programs have the supported the Ministry of Health and local communities to reduce maternal mortality and child deaths, prevent infectious diseases

and other illnesses, and help people live healthier lives. Citizens and migrants don't have a stable system, they don't have healthcare because either they don't have any available (in their country) or they can't afford it because of financial or home conditions. IOM takes action to promote the health of migrants and mobile populations throughout the migration process and in the field of public health in communities of origin, transit and destination, while also strengthening health systems and migration policies and practices". The organization IOM help migrants and refugees.

In Dakar, Senegal one would have to pay out of pocket for healthcare when they are unable to afford it. Some people can't do this sometimes because if they don't provide certain working papers they can be denied job payment. If they are not able to pay for healthcare in Dakar Senegal, there are some other routes one can take. "Welfare assistance provides the entire population with primary health care. The system is organised in a pyramid structure in this country" that method is for you are unemployed in dakar senegal. There are two types of health insurance available to you in Senegal: one public and one private.

The quality of healthcare in Senegal is crucial. "Senegal has a Social Security system but it does not cover health care or unemployment. For workers, healthcare is covered by the IPM health fund (Institut de Prévoyance Maladie), operated by one or several companies." If a person is unemployed, they have offers that can maybe help . "Welfare assistance provides the entire population with primary health care. The system is organised in a pyramid structure in this country"

In Dakar, Senegal, there is a community health effort called the USAID. USAID's community health efforts is the service delivery component, which seeks to increase the quality and availability of services throughout the health system. This approach focuses on providing an



integrated package of services consisting of family planning, safe motherhood, and child health, which are now available at all health care points of service. Migrants that come to Dakar should have a setup in which when they leave to find asylum in another country or to settle in Senegal permanently. They should also move primary care physicians and maybe go to free clinics in which can help them out.

Migrants in Dakar Senegal face food insecurity. Organizations like WFP (World Food Programme) provide nutritious meals for 294,500 school children in areas with high levels of food and nutrition insecurity. “Poverty and food insecurity are particularly prevalent in rural areas in the north, east and south of the country. The agriculture sector is dominated by subsistence farming, with limited access to good quality seeds and fertilizers, technology, finance and credit, agricultural insurance and post-harvest storage techniques.” This shows that the WFP has a special mission to especially help out the kid that face food insecurity.

In Dakar they plan to “end malnourishment of people by the year 2030” so no one goes unfed. They want everyone to have a good and healthy life. They also believe that “The end of hunger is within reach.” They have no reliable or ongoing care at the moment.

Mental health is often given low priority in Senegal. “Organization, recommend integrating mental health into primary care settings to reduce mortality.” They don't give regard to mental health because they think it's not a priority and there are other pressing matters. Senegal needs to expand this with the influx of migrants because they need to be checked to see how they really how they are doing after going through so much. Migrants have to go through a lot of stuff like for example not having the option to seek asylum in other countries, dying trying to go to other countries, and getting caught trying to seek help and get hurt by authorities in the process.

In Dakar Senegal the water sanitation department are doing good for example, 172,000 people in rural areas were provided with access to improved water. Around 78% of citizens have access to indoor plumbing in 2017.

Dakar faces a very low percentage of migrants and refugees who have access to indoor plumbing because some migrants don't get into good homes or don't get a home at all. This is because they don't have the right information because they are not from there. You need certain papers to own a house. They follow a lot of guidelines to own something for yourself. "Improved water source (% of population with access) in Senegal was 78.50 as of 2015. Its highest value over the past 25 years was 78.50 in 2015, while its lowest value was 59.90 in 1990." This shows how they have some low percentages of water income for the migrants and refugees. Trans-Fats is one of the few health scares that Senegal faces. They do not get a lot of fresh sourced food so they have to resort to processed food that tastes good but is bad for people's overall health.

The Senegalese government does not deal with trash. Organizations around the area do. "Senegal's poor waste management is largely due to instability in the sector." The government's sector is not doing their job properly and they show no intention of fixing the matter at hand. Since they have no source of help, it would most likely just end up on the streets and polluting neighborhoods more and more for the years to come.

In order to use technology to prepare for, mobilize around, and address the health issues of migrants, the Senegalese delegation suggests an app and or set up flyers for those who don't have access to social media or the internet, and talk about all of the struggles and do and don'ts of how it all works from primary care forms to how to eat from a fresh food source and not get sick in the process.

***Committee on Youth and Education***

Senegal's public school system population has been increasing. Senegal has seen a jump in how many parents enroll their children into schools within just 10 years. In 2005, 64% of kids were enrolled in a public school but, in 2015 nearly 73% of kids were fully enrolled in a school. There is not much racial distribution in Senegal's public schools because only half of children ages 5-14 attend school. Primary education is enforced, but secondary education is not. Senegal's government is trying to ensure that more students go to secondary school so they've been making more and more schools every year. Most schools are located in Dakar, the capital of Senegal. However, there are some smaller schools that are scattered throughout villages. 60% of attending students complete primary school and about 30% complete secondary school. Most students walk to school but there are station wagons which are shared. Up to seven people can be packed into the vehicles at once it's the easiest way to get around Senegal.

Senegalese schools are overburdened, with about 600,000 students enrolled in school while only about 20,000 have access to internet. About 100 schools have new or updated buildings. In the public school system they have far too many students compared to the ratio to their teachers. Most classrooms are lacking books, internet access, and seats for all their students.

There is not much racial or ethnic diversity amongst teachers within Senegalese schools. Not even a gender based diversity as about 60% of teachers in Senegal are male. There are more male teachers than female teachers. The percentage of those that speak multiple languages, 80% speak more than one language but school curriculum is taught in French. Senegal recognizes that education is one of the best ways to boost economy and have a better lifestyle for their people. For nearly 2 decades Senegal has been working with numerous organizations to have a major education reform. Senegalese citizens can receive a free education until the age of 16. Most

schools in Senegal are secular. They try not to mix faith into their classrooms but there are a few Catholic schools mainly for primary school.

Most of the youth leave after primary school to go work and assist in supporting their families. Since 2012 there has been a major unemployment of youth. This has caused a huge outbreak of families migrating to Europe. Migrant children have the chance to get an education while they are in Senegal but not many families stay long or at least don't plan to so they never enroll their children into school. Migrant children are not recognized in the school system. The Talibe (migrant students) children do not even go to school with Senegalese children because they are not Senegalese citizens.

Migrant children such as the Talibe children are confined to religious education. They do not attend the same public schools as Senegalese children. Over 100,000 Talibe are reported to be subjected to begging in Senegal. Furthermore, they are treated differently because of their non-citizen status. These children are not allowed to enter Senegal's public school system, which is secular; as a result of that, the Talibe children are subjected to religious education because their teachers are their de facto guardians. The Talibe children seek refuge in Senegal, and often travel without their parents. The Senegalese government has allotted 2 million dollars to improve the quality of life and education for Talibe children.

When a student decides to leave school they are forced into work for free. This is called Vocational education. They do this for two years and they take another test to see if they can back into school although many don't wait the two years. Senegal realizes that they are a transit country and that they are there to help refugees. They know what it's like to have someone focal change their culture and the way that they live. The Senegalese delegation believes that Senegal

should give migrant children the chance to learn their language and understand their culture but it is not forced on them so they don't have to assimilate.

The migrants tend to stay in the refugee camp because they are getting treated for injuries or illnesses that they might have gotten when they were traveling to Senegal. They can interact with local children but it's a matter of, if they physically can. A special program to help refugees is the DAFI fellowship this helps refugees to gain “self-sufficiency, to develop capacities or qualifications by facilitating the access of refugee students to universities, and technological institutes in their countries of asylum throughout the world.” They hope of leaving your country of origin to to live a better life, be protected, and be stable. Having an education and the opportunity for a better tomorrow is the reason why they keep pushing through. In Senegal there aren't many jobs available for the youth this is why Senegalese citizens are leaving the country as well

Senegalese units work with NGOs to help migrant youth by providing them with the basic human needs and Senegal provides them with opportunities. With several organizations such as the Association of African Women for Research and Development (AAWORD) which was created for Senegalese women to help them obtain political and social rights. Another organization, the Association culturelle d'auto-promotion éducative et sociale (ACAPES), their goal “The advent of a world where the mechanisms of social relations are based on solidarity and commitment to fight against all forms of exclusion, poverty and abuse on the rise is multifaceted cultural vision.” Helping by raising social consciousness on different movements but a big promoter for education.

***Committee on Resilience***

With the influx of people fleeing from countries such as Gambia, the city has taken action by providing necessities that refugees need like housing. In an article titled “Refugees for a second time: How the Gambian crisis reawakened the trauma of a Sierra Leonean family” it mentions the struggles of a family who have left Gambia due to “uncertainty and a potential military intervention.” This gave them no other option than to flee to Dakar in search for safety. The article states “Almost all the 95 refugees that were hosted in the premises of the Olympic swimming pool are originally from Sierra Leone.” Signifying that all refugees experienced similar trauma. They were luckily helped by the Red Cross where they were given resources to maintain. The article states “these refugees have been receiving assistance including accommodation, food, water, clothes and health care, among others.”

In Senegal refugees are offered many resources such as water, shelter, clothing etc by the UNHCR and other agencies. The UNHCR does push forward their objective on “community empowerment.” In a 2014 fact sheet by the UNHCR it states “05 of the 17 refugees received income generating starter kit of funds ranging from 100,000 to 150,000 XOF. The objective is so that they can eventually be autonomous through access to microfinance support activities.” The UNHCR has also provided aid for education for refugee children. In the 2014 UNHCR fact sheet it states “293 primary students (98%) and 94 high school students (99%) received aid for their education for the school year. It includes supplies, registration and transport ultimately guaranteeing their right to education.” NGOs have also provided many refugees with items such as “rice, oil, sugar while non-food items will include mattresses, mats, blankets, sheets and soaps.” (Senegal: Around 45,000 have fled political uncertainty in The Gambia)

Refugees who enter Senegal with no relatives often receive the same treatment as the rest of the people coming in. They may be able to be grouped with other individuals. In the article

“Senegal: Around 45,000 have fled political uncertainty in The Gambia” it mentions the influx of people coming into Senegal due to complications in The Gambia. Most refugees were accommodated. It states “Over 75 percent of arrivals are children, accompanied mainly by women. They are staying with family members, host families or in hotels.” This signifies how many refugees were taken in by other families at no cost (Host families).

As of 2015 there has been no structure that targets migration from Senegal. Migration is often handled by “various ministries and development actors.” According to the “IOM Migration Profile of Senegal” they state “Senegal has neither a formal migration policy nor a structure dedicated to the migration issue for determining and implementing the national migration policy.” Although they do not have a policy they have taken action to manage the influx. In an article dated in 2010 (Senegal Shifts from Country of Destination to One of Transit and Professional Emigration, IOM Migration Profile Finds) they have attempted to make a system to handle the population. It states “the establishment of an effective system for managing and monitoring the Senegalese population living abroad.” NGOs such as UNHCR, IOM, Red Cross etc often aid these refugees. In the article “Refugees for a second time: How the Gambian crisis reawakened the trauma of a Sierra Leonean family” it states “Red Cross volunteers also handled the registration of fleeing people.” The article “Senegal: Around 45,000 have fled political uncertainty in The Gambia” also states “ We are also available to support the authorities to establish a harmonized registration system.” Many agencies have come together to address this issue.

Senegal has turned to various countries for assistance such as France, Italy and Spain to help with the crisis. The Government of Senegal is also working with national and international partners. In the article “Senegal Shifts from Country of Destination to One of Transit and

Professional Emigration, IOM Migration Profile Finds” it states “from bilateral agreements with France, Italy and Spain to initiatives promoting employment for youth and for women.” Since Senegal is apart of ECOWAS, it allows for short term refugees to travel between the member states freely.

It is possible for migrants to have safety within the city, but not all. Specifically young children who are at great risk. In the profile titled “Senegal Migration Profile” by the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance it states “children, are not provided with insufficient protections by the government. Even when VoTs are identified, investigations, prosecutions, and convictions are commonly absent due to government authorities’ lack of understanding of trafficking and political will to bring about change.” This goes to show that the Government of Senegal are oblivious and need assistance from others to better improve the way they handle situations. Some risks/dangers that could be possible due to an influx of refugees coming in from different countries are terrorism, disease, overpopulation, minimal jobs, and trafficking.

Throughout the years Senegal has had an influx of refugees. In 2008, Senegal was found violating the rights of refugees by the U.S state department. Senegalese government “violated the rights of some asylum seekers by not offering them due process or security since appeals filed by denied asylum seekers were examined by the same committee that examined their original cases, and a denied asylum seeker can be arrested for staying illegally in the country. Those arrested sometimes remained in ‘administrative detention’ for up to three months before being deported.” (Senegal Immigration Detention Profile) Dated in 2009, most of these refugees were held in prisons or police stations. This is one of the known cases of Senegalese Government found violating rights.



Senegal is not that advanced in terms of technology, although they are improving. In the article titled “Women are taking charge in Senegal's growing tech industry” it states “internet access has grown exponentially, jumping from just 5% of the population in 2005 to over 25% in 2017.” This is a significant increase that will continue to grow in coming years. Senegal has also made technology that helps detect malaria at a early stage. According to an article titled “New technology reduces malaria cases in Senegal” it states “Scientists have developed technology that has seen cases drop by 20 percent.” The detection kit is able to recognize any parasites that are present in the blood in only an hour. There have also been plans that involve renewable energy.

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