



# Peace Corps

## SENEGAL



**2016** Annual Report



## Peace Corps SENEGAL

### Message from the Country Director

Greetings from the  
Land of Teranga (“hospitality” in  
Wolof)

Senegal provides an excellent setting for the Peace Corps: democratic and politically stable with a long history of religious and ethnic tolerance, as well as freedom of movement and action. Volunteers quickly integrate into their communities, thanks to this history and to our world-class language and culture training program. And through our technical training program, Volunteers are equipped with the skills necessary to support the development efforts of their host communities.

We take contributions to national development, the first of Peace Corps’ three goals, very seriously. Volunteers make a lasting contribution to local-level development through one of our four sectors – Agriculture, Agroforestry, Community Economic Development or Health.

In addition to primary sector work, they also contribute to promoting gender equity through the global Let Girls Learn initiative, youth empowerment camps and in many other exciting areas. We provide our Volunteers the opportunity to design their own innovative projects, and take pride in the creativity and ingenuity of their thoughtful and impactful work.

Beyond development, Senegal Volunteers are also actively working on Peace Corps’ two cross-cultural understanding goals – by helping Senegalese to better understand American society and culture, and by taking their knowledge of Senegalese society and culture back to the U.S. And, in the process, our Volunteers wind up effecting change that lasts a lifetime.



## History

### Lu Yagg Degg La! That which endures is true!

The United States Peace Corps is active in 140 countries worldwide, working with host countries to face the most pressing challenges of our time.

Peace Corps has worked hand-in-hand with the Government of Senegal, communities, and local counterparts since 1963 to help Senegal achieve critical development goals. Peace Corps Volunteers serve across the country, devoting two or more years of their lives to grass-roots community development in this land of Teranga, Senegal's rich culture of hospitality, warmth and sharing.

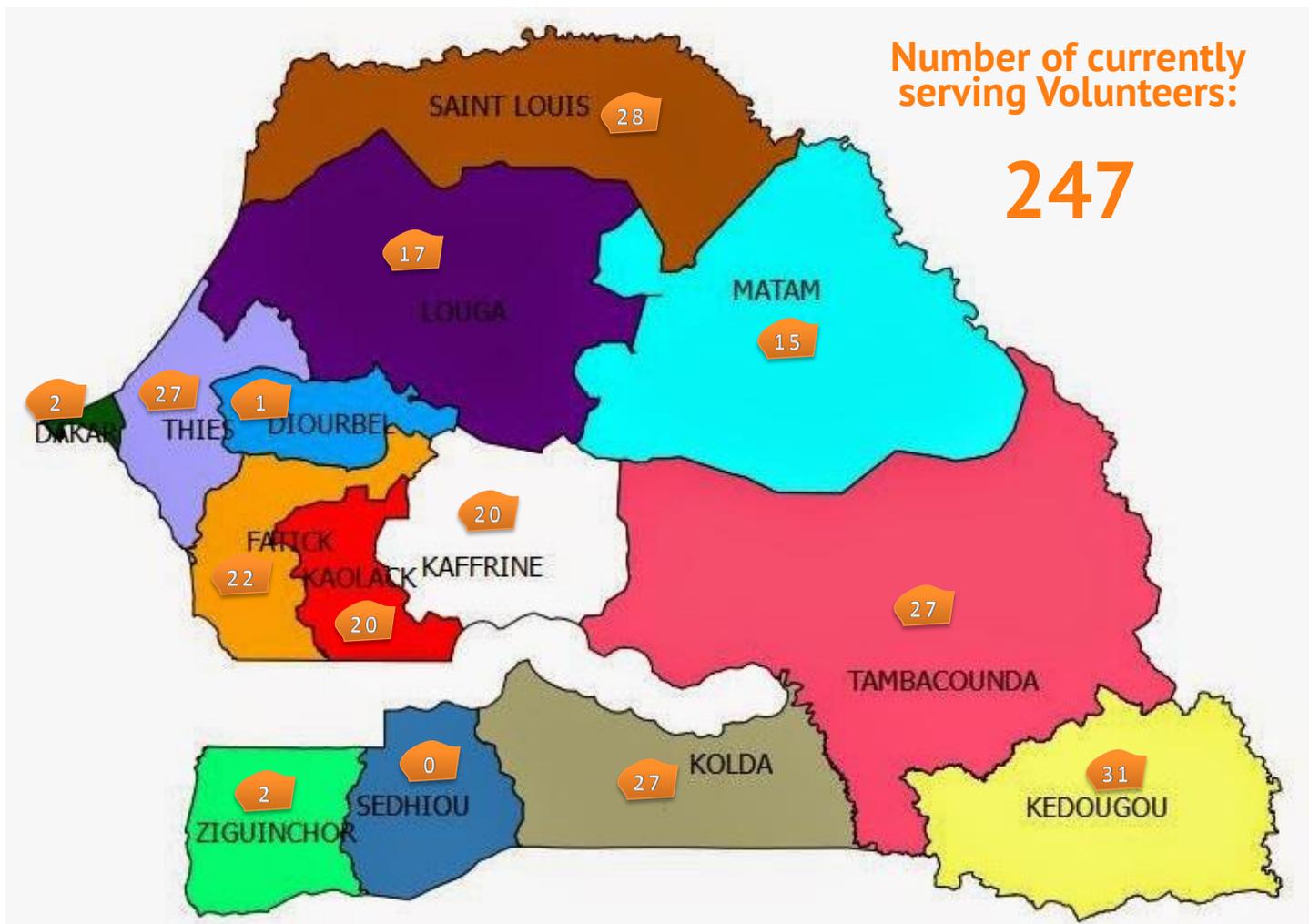
### Peace Corps aims:

1. To help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women.
2. To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.
3. To help promote a better understanding of Senegalese people on the part of Americans.

## Volunteers are our Resources!

Peace Corps Volunteers are Americans between the ages of 19 and 90. They represent the rich diversity of the US itself, coming from all races, ethnicities, backgrounds and cultures that make up the country. Serving for two years, Volunteers learn local languages, live with families, and share Senegalese culture. Volunteers work as facilitators, helping to build long-term capacity in their communities and serving as catalysts for collaborative development among our network of development partners.

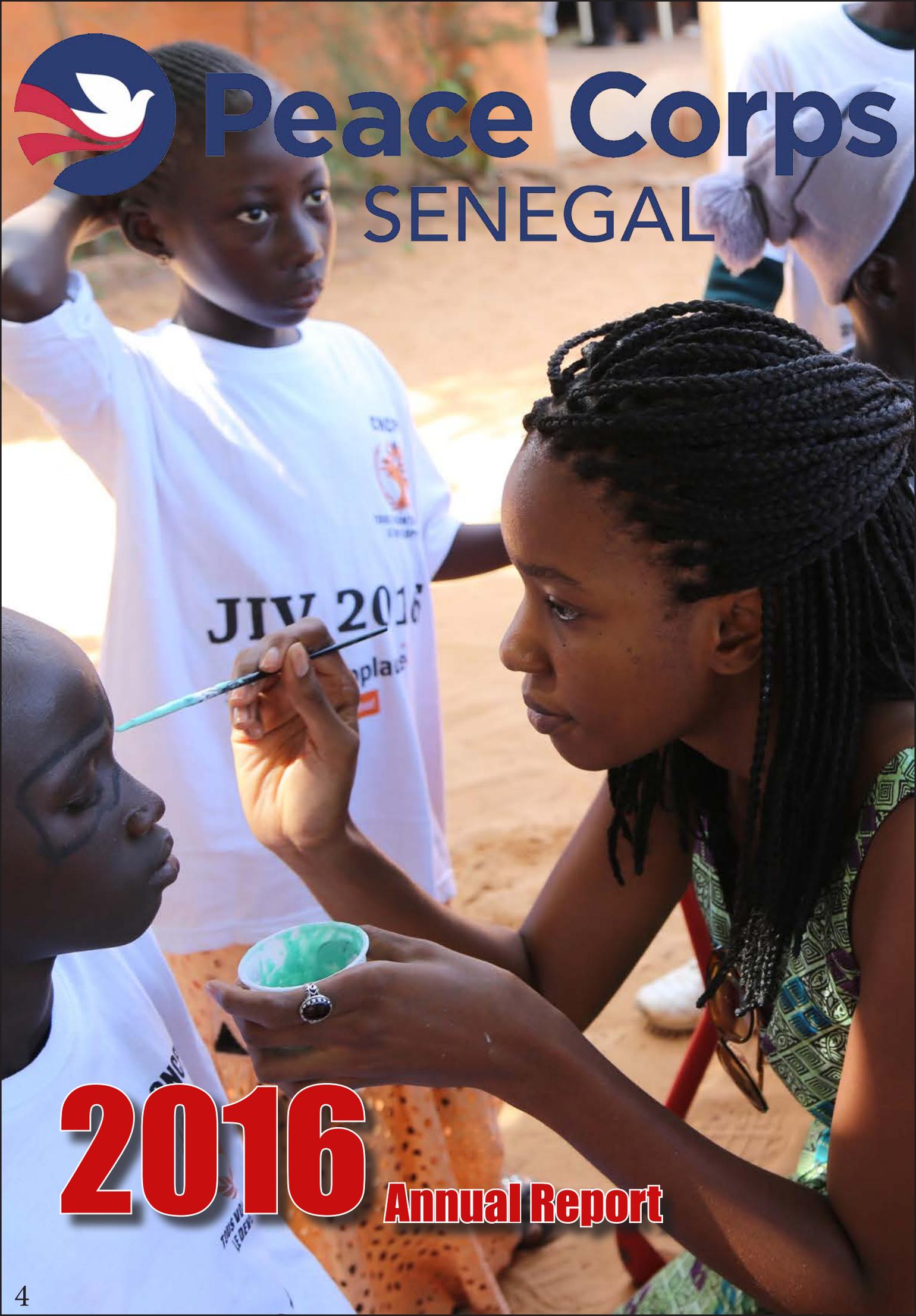
Over 225 dedicated Volunteers currently serve throughout Senegal, carrying out development projects in agriculture, agroforestry, health and community economic development. Working in the innovative Work Zone Model, Peace Corps Volunteers achieve impressive results in cross-sector initiatives including Food Security, Youth and Gender Development and Malaria Prevention.





# Peace Corps

## SENEGAL

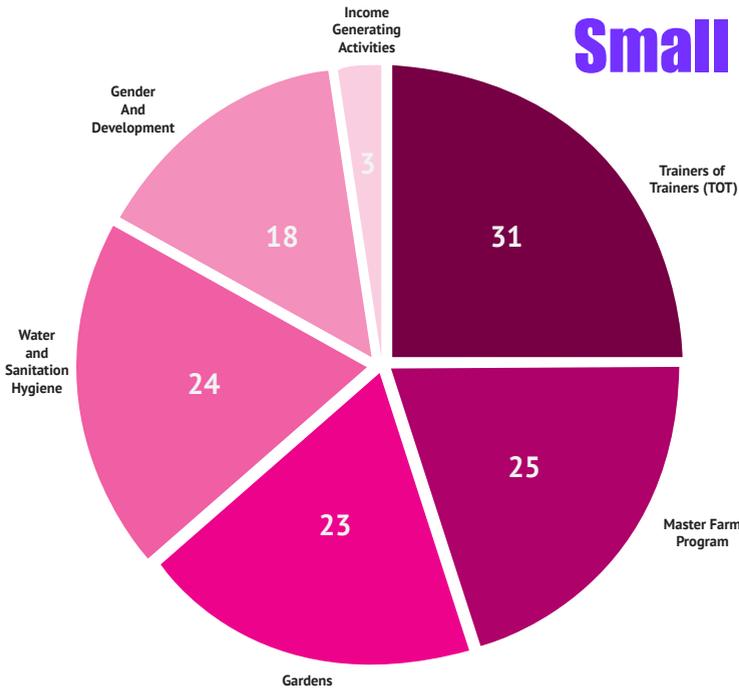


# 2016

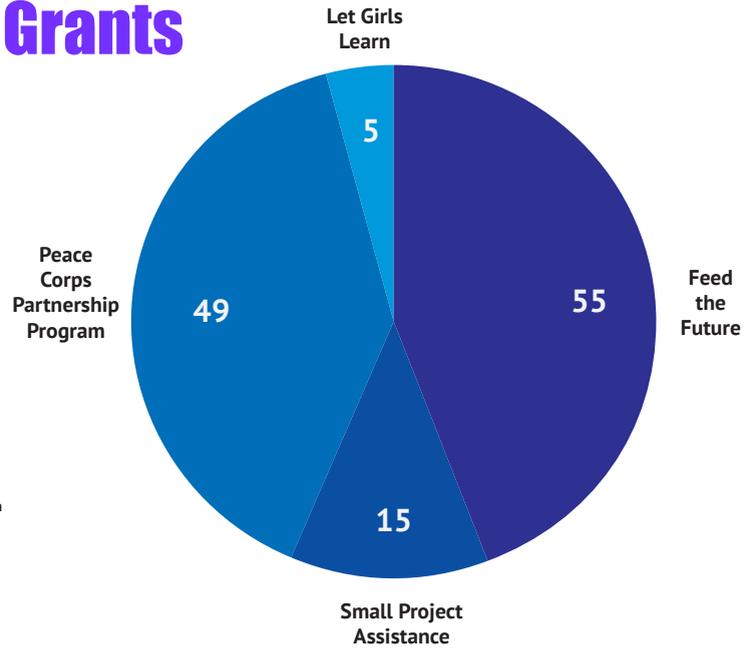
## Annual Report

# At a glance: Peace Corps Senegal's Results

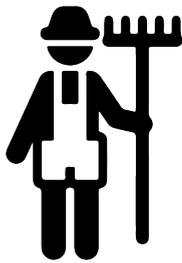
## Small Grants



by sector



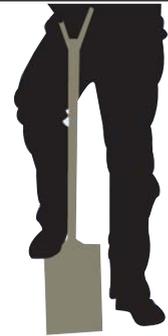
by funding source



New technologies and practices / hectares impacted: 138



People reached on Food Security related Training: 6,340



Number of trees planted: 110,319



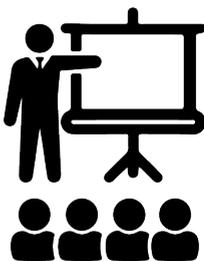
People trained on nutrition: 3,156



Number of long lasting insecticide-treated nets were purchased or delivered: 49,347



Number of people trained in financial literacy: 597



Number of businesses assisted with training: 401



Number of girls able to attend school thanks to Michelle Sylvester Scholarship: 917



Number of boys and girls attending leadership camps: 2,000

# AGRICULTURE

Urban and Sustainable Agriculture Volunteers work to achieve the sector's two goals.

**Goal 1:** rural Senegalese farmers will improve crop management skills

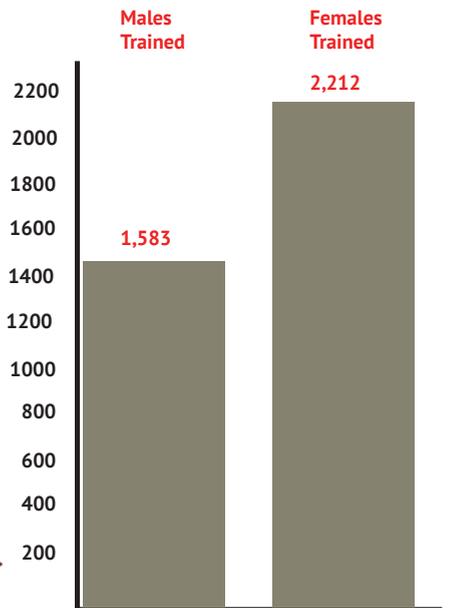
**Goal 2:** Senegalese community members will intensify fruit and vegetable production.

Volunteers work to improve agricultural productivity by sharing information and working with growers on (1) the extension of improved variety seed, (2) erosion control and improved water catchment (3) improved field-crop management techniques, and (4) timely harvest. Volunteers teach seed selection and storage techniques and improved gardening technologies such as double digging, companion planting, use of organic pesticides, and mulching. Agriculture Volunteers also work with community members to extend fruit tree propagation techniques.

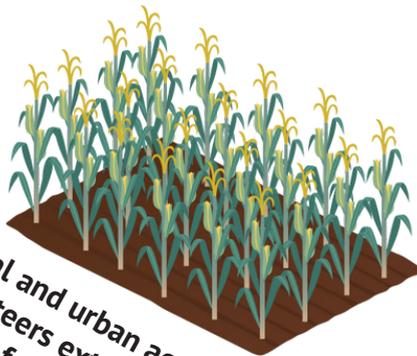


27 new gardens created

1,105 individuals trained in improved gardening practices and 818 farmers implementing those practices



Agriculture Volunteers trained 3,795 people



Rural and urban agriculture Volunteers extension efforts account for over 95 % of 138 hectares covered with improved technologies



Four Volunteers reported 86 farmers trained in seed selection and storage, 9 of which became local seed source



Eighteen Volunteers reported they extended technologies to 234 farmers of which 174 achieved an improved productivity.

50 Volunteers reported adoption of new crops by 1161 farmers



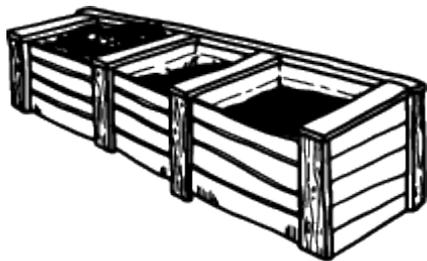
Total of 26,357 trees were planted with the assistance of Sustainable and Urban Agriculture Volunteers.

# AGROFORESTRY

Agroforestry volunteers come face-to-face with some of the most insidious causes of food insecurity in Senegal, ie. devastating “slash and burn” agriculture, erratic rainfall patterns, overgrazing, soil crippled by mono-cropping, and the encroaching desert from the north.

To combat this, Volunteers encourage the use of a land-use system that integrates trees, crops, and animals to promote higher productivity, greater economic returns, and more social benefits on a sustained basis.

Agroforestry Volunteers spread the use of six key technologies: live-fencing, wind breaks, fire breaks, alley cropping, woodlots, and contour planting.



**680 pilot farmers on agroforestry technologies (live fence, wind break, ally cropping, etc) to increase their**



**Agroforestry volunteers and their counterparts trained 517 villagers to develop and manage fruit tree orchards**

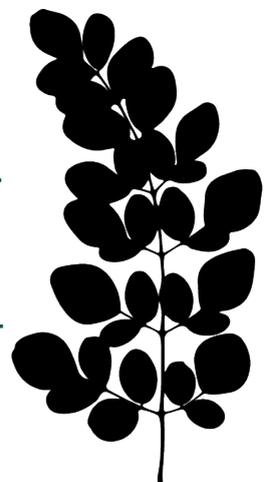


**For the 6th year, Peace Corps undertook mangrove reforestation. Fifty volunteers and 154 Senegalese counterparts replanted over three hectares of mangrove which will provide habitat for countless species, clean the water and air, prevent erosion, and contribute nutrients to the fertile waters off the coast of Senegal.**



**Improved Cashew seeds, improved banana shoots and improved papaya seeds distributed to PCVs, Master Farmers and their work partners**

**1,253 farmers trained on Moringa cultivation to increase availability to nutritious foods. Agroforestry Volunteers, their counterparts, and workpartners supported their communities in producing, planting and protecting over 90,000 trees**



# COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

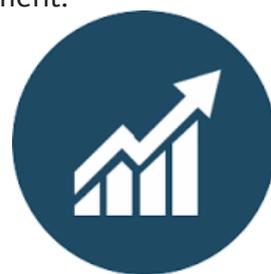


With the purpose of “creating sustainable livelihoods in vibrant local economies” the Community Economic Development sector has three goals 1) to enhance business growth and job creation, 2) to increase the productivity and income of individuals participating in empowerment groups and producer associations, and 3) to help individuals to manage their own finances in order to increase their household economic security. The CED niche includes Agribusiness, Handicrafts, Ecotourism, and Waste Management.



401 Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (including farmers) received business development service

963 people trained in financial literacy.



1412 people trained in business management, including Income Generation

485 youth trained in entrepreneurship



of which

260 people demonstrated understanding of sound entrepreneurial practices



40 new businesses created



577 people demonstrated improved financial literacy skills



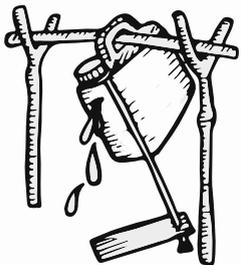
Volunteers and their partners helped organizations and individual to complete 60 business plans



# HEALTH

Our health Volunteers work alongside service providers in government-run health posts and huts to improve the health status of their communities. By living in the community, Volunteers understand the health problems intimately and foster ideas to encourage better health education and treatment-seeking behaviors. Three main intervention areas constitute the focus of Health Volunteers who strive to engender lasting behavior change: malaria, maternal and child health, and WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene).

1,805 individuals trained to build hand washing stations and correctly clean their hands with soap and water at the station



13 PCVs conducted baseline and sanitation surveys



369 community water and sanitation systems constructed, improved, or rehabilitated



1,856 women educated on exclusive breastfeeding



2,140 individuals educated on prevention of common childhood illnesses



2,880 people in households have access to clean, safe drinking water



885 women demonstrated how to make a nutritious meal



3,156 people trained in child health and nutrition education



## Cross Sector Initiatives

Stomp Out Malaria, a Peace Corps program that was conceived in Senegal, has become the model in 23 Peace Corps programs across Africa (see [www.stompoutmalaria.org](http://www.stompoutmalaria.org)). Volunteers work with local health counterparts to educate communities about bed net use and assist with net distributions, work with counterparts to promote house-to-house testing and treatment for malaria and promote preventive treatment of malaria among pregnant women. Over a 100 new Volunteers and staff from across the continent are trained to Stomp Out Malaria in their countries of service each year.

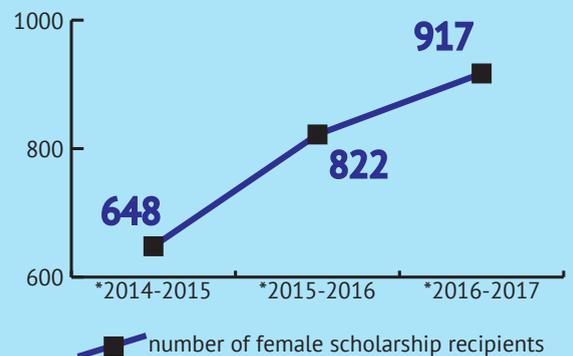
- **385** medical professionals and **667** community mobilizers were trained in malaria prevention
- **49,347** long lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) were purchased or delivered
- **6,329** community members received BCC/IEC outreach promoting malaria prevention and care seeking
- **46** teachers were trained to include malaria prevention in their lesson plans



SeneGAD, Peace Corps Senegal's volunteer-led Gender Empowerment committee, has been active since the 1980s. Today, dedicated SeneGAD members support the entire Volunteer community to support gender and youth empowerment efforts across the country. We believe that gender and youth empowerment must be a joint effort between men and women, boys and girls. Therefore, Peace Corps Senegal currently highlights Men as Partners in Gender and youth development. Volunteers facilitate over a dozen dynamic youth camps each year, and are supporting an increasing number of camps that sustainably encourage gender and youth empowerment at the community level.

### Michele Sylvester Scholarship Program

The Michele Sylvester Scholarship program, which began 20 years ago in honor of a Peace Corps Senegal Volunteer, aims to close the gender gap in Senegalese education by supporting middle-school girls who show a combination of academic promise and financial need.



In Senegal, the Peace Corps works on the president's "Feed the Future" initiative that supports one of the priorities of the Government of Senegal, which is to improve the food security and agricultural growth. This initiative integrates both strategies of bolstering agricultural production and improving the nutrition of households.

With its model of intervention within poorer communities, the purpose of Peace Corps' initiative is to improve the food security of households in Senegal by the improvement of the production, promotion and consumption of local food products of good quality for children and adults.

To do this, the Peace Corps has developed a partnership that directly contributes to the objectives of the USAID's program "Feed the Future" and the priorities for the development of Senegal. In the framework of this partnership, the Peace Corps has created the Master Farm program. The objective of this program is to show how farmers can appropriately use agricultural technologies and agroforestry techniques to better support their families through increased access to cereals and legumes; to fruit and vegetables; and the improvement of income through the sale of their agricultural products.

## Internships in Tambacounda

PCV Laura 2015-2017 Community Economic Development Agent



Unemployment is a nationwide problem in Senegal. As today's youth begin getting ready to join the workforce, this situation is becoming ever more critical. Career-readiness skills are not taught in schools and job-training experiences are not available. For PCV Laura, creating an internship program seemed like the best way to help students better prepare for their future professional goals. The internship program would teach students soft skills and offer them real office experience. Additionally, the program would focus on empowering girls as they face additional barriers to education and success in society today.

Often, girls are required to do chores around the home or help take care of siblings before they can do their homework. Sometimes, boys' educations are prioritized over girls' educations and girls are forced to quit school early if their family cannot afford school fees for all their children. There are also social stigmas against women working in many professional fields. All of these represent behaviors and attitudes that are specific to girls and that are highly detrimental to their futures.

In order to establish the internship program, PCV Laura began by contacting potential organizations that could host the student. Simultaneously her counterpart was coordinating with students to gauge interest and distribute applications. They received over 50 applications from students and interviewed 30 students, finally choosing twelve to participate in the program. They primarily selected qualified female candidates, in order to support the Let Girls Learn initiative of giving girls access to resources to be successful in school.



But, they decided to also select a few qualified boys, as this would allow for a conversation about how men in the community could help support girls' education.

Along with four other PCVs, they hosted an Orientation Day to prepare the students for the program. They brought in guest speakers to discuss professionalism, they addressed expectations of students and of supervisors, and they invited students to talk about their fears and hopes for the program. They also had a conversation about gender in the workplace. The students then worked in their assigned offices for four weeks. During these weeks, they attended meetings, assisted with small tasks around the office, wrote reports, and went on field visits. Each Saturday, the students then met with PCVs to talk about supplementary topics that would benefit their future goals, such as financial literacy, leadership, emotional stress management, and public speaking. The students also received a training on basic computer skills as well as a session on creating resumes and letters of motivation.



After the four weeks of work, a Closing Ceremony was hosted to recognize the students, their parents, and supervisors for the success of the program. The students each gave speeches about their experiences and then received certificates. They evaluated the outcomes and impact of this program by comparing a pre-test the students took before the Orientation Day with a post-test they completed at the end of the Closing Ceremony.

All intended objectives were achieved. Listening to the students' presentations, it was also evident that they had gained a lot from this program. They demonstrated improved professionalism, employability, communication skills, leadership, and confidence in themselves. The girls especially were empowered through the program to continue striving to achieve the professional goals they set for themselves.

# Thank you to our partners



- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Health and Social Action
- Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development
- Ministry of the Youth, Employment, and the Promotion of Civic Values
- Communities
- Community Based Organizations
- Local Partners
- Municipalities

To find out more about the work of our volunteers and their counterparts, visit:

[www.peacecorps.gov/stories/](http://www.peacecorps.gov/stories/)

In case of emergency, please contact Peace Corps:

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