

Advancing Youth Well-being in Urban Senegal

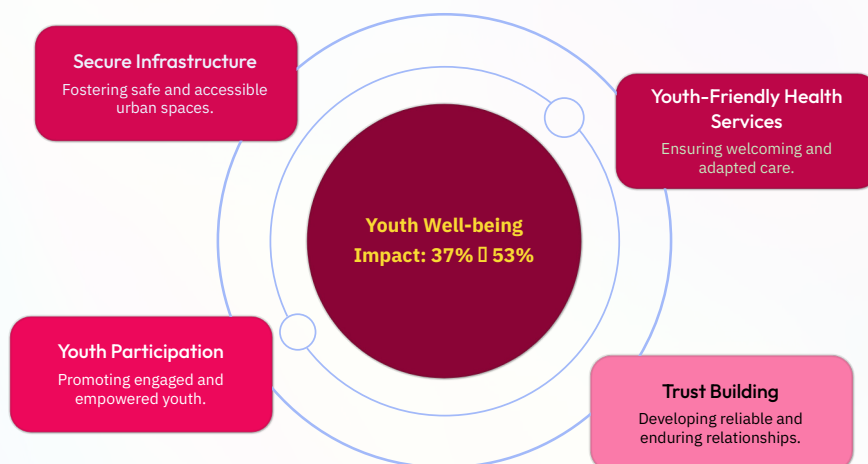


Our initiative employs a comprehensive systemic framework to drive sustainable improvements in the well-being of urban youth across Senegal. We support young people to actively participate in and contribute to their communities, simultaneously strengthening urban environments as supportive, secure, and health-promoting spaces for young people through evidence-based, digitally-driven, and collaboratively developed behavioral change strategies.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

To strategically advance the goals of the Senegalese national plan for reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH) through a comprehensive systemic framework designed to foster lasting and significant well-being outcomes for urban youth (ages 10-24) in Senegal.

Theory of Change

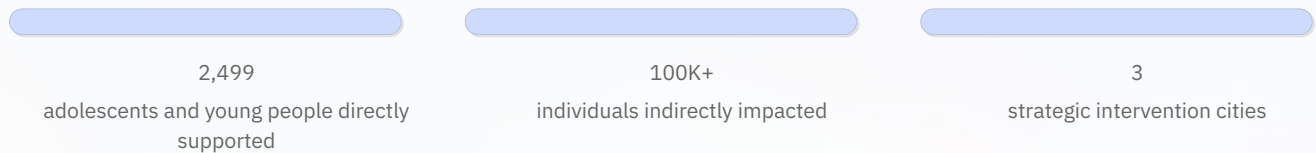


This theory clearly illustrates the interconnected levers essential for achieving improved youth well-being outcomes.

Driving Transformative Impact: Key Achievements

The "Fort pour le Futur" initiative, implemented between July 2022 and June 2025, focused on three key Senegalese urban centers: Pikine, Thiès, and Tivaouane. Our approach integrates advocacy with decision-makers, community mobilization, and targeted communication. We support sustainable change by empowering youth, enhancing urban systems for accountability, and creating environments that encourage healthy behaviors. Our interventions engage key stakeholders across **health, education, youth, local governance, and civil society organizations**.

Program Reach & Scale



Strategic Communications & Behavioral Change

To engage urban youth effectively, the project utilizes a blend of digital and traditional communication channels. Our campaigns are designed for impact and accessibility, ensuring the dissemination of information. Digital solutions, with 4,300 application users, complement our on-the-ground approaches, supporting broad reach and engagement.



Influencing Public Policy & Advocacy

The project engages in advocacy to influence public policies, aiming to integrate the needs and priorities of young people into local and national decision-making frameworks. Adolescents involved in our programs show increased confidence, knowledge, and civic participation. These efforts have led to several municipalities beginning to integrate youth priorities into their strategic planning and budgetary allocations.



18

strategic advocacy sessions executed



39

key authorities engaged



24

concrete policy commitments secured

Municipal Commitments: Supporting Local Development

• THIÈS

- Establishment of a Youth Cultural Center
- Expansion of Universal Health Coverage (CMU) for Adolescents
- Allocation of 400M FCFA for Urban Infrastructure and Community Partnerships
- Deployment of 120 Road Safety Volunteers

• PIKINE

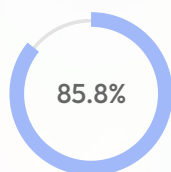
- Comprehensive Renovation of the Childhood Early Development and Social Protection Center (CEDPS)
- Integration of a Dedicated School Nurse at MYB High School
- Investment of 300M FCFA in Youth Empowerment Organizations
- Development of a Digital Resource Library

• TIVAOUANE

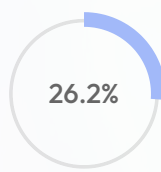
- Increased Youth Participation in Budgetary Planning
- Provision of Academic Scholarship Opportunities
- Implementation of Targeted Vocational Training Programs
- Support for the Talibé Integration Program
- Installation of Community Recreational Facilities

Capacity Building and Active Participation

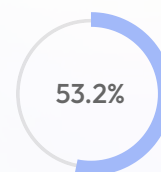
A cohort of 60 adolescents (22 boys, 38 girls) received training in human rights, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), leadership, and advocacy. The project emphasizes community engagement and active participation. By strengthening the capabilities of local leaders, we foster effective partnerships for sustainable change.



Improved confidence in human rights principles (+10.6 points)



Higher community participation (+15.3 points)



Self-reported well-being improved (+15.9 points)

Infrastructure and Essential Services

6

Adolescent-Friendly Spaces established

3

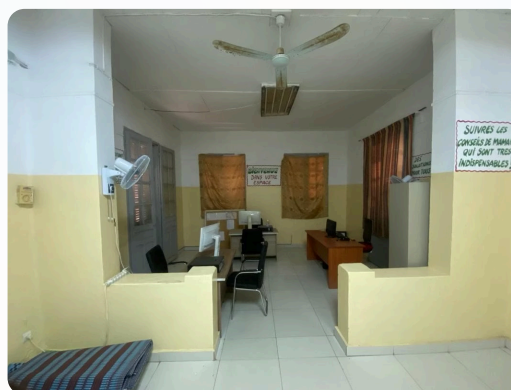
Adolescent Counseling Centers (ACC) operationalized

4

School Infirmaries upgraded

7

Mobile Health Units deployed



Beneficiary Testimonials

"Prior to this intervention, I had never accessed a health facility for consultation or guidance from a midwife. I had reservations about physical examinations and kept my reproductive health concerns entirely private. Today, my entire outlook has significantly changed. I feel liberated and more confident, recognizing my right to understand my own body and to share this knowledge within my community. It is through the HCAII project that I gained awareness of the importance of bodily autonomy and equitable access to quality health services."

Young Male Beneficiary, 17, Thies



Key Drivers & Learnings

The strategic implementation of our initiative has identified key drivers and generated valuable strategic learnings. These insights are essential for enhancing our sustainable impact and informing future intervention strategies for supporting urban youth in Senegal.

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| <p>01</p> <h3>Fostering Youth Participation through Co-Creation</h3> <p>Recognizing youth as key partners for change, genuine engagement and co-creative processes are essential for developing relevant and effective solutions that promote ownership.</p> | <p>02</p> <h3>Cultivating Cross-Sectoral Alliances</h3> <p>Strategic collaboration with diverse stakeholders—including governmental bodies, civil society organizations, and the private sector—is important for broadening programmatic reach and enhancing intervention effectiveness for sustainable development.</p> | <p>03</p> <h3>Adapting to Local Contexts</h3> <p>A strong understanding of local socio-cultural dynamics, coupled with programmatic adaptability, ensures the delivery of targeted, responsive interventions that address evolving community needs and support positive change.</p> |
| <p>04</p> <h3>Promoting Community-Led Stewardship</h3> <p>The active involvement and support of local leadership are fundamental for mobilizing communities and integrating project initiatives sustainably within the social fabric, contributing to lasting impact.</p> | <p>05</p> <h3>Ensuring Institutional Alignment and Viability</h3> <p>Strategic alignment with national policies and strong support from public institutions are critical enablers for ensuring the long-term sustainability and scalability of our actions, supporting systemic change.</p> | <p>06</p> <h3>Utilizing Digital Communication for Reach</h3> <p>Digital platforms serve as effective instruments for raising awareness, supporting mobilization, and inclusively engaging a broad youth demographic through accessible modalities.</p> |

Next Steps: Expansion Phase

Building upon our demonstrated progress and integrated learnings, the project is now entering a strategic expansion phase. This aims to empower and strengthen peer educator networks, adolescents, and youth, thereby enhancing their health and well-being outcomes across Thiès, Pikine, and Tivaouane.

- ### Strengthening Peer Educator Networks

 - Formalize network structures and support their official recognition to enhance legitimacy and operational capacity.
 - Initiate income-generating activities to build financial autonomy and sustained self-sufficiency.
 - Strengthen advocacy capabilities and strategic resource mobilization efforts to influence system change.
- ### Enhancing Municipal Engagement

 - Establish formalized partnerships with municipal entities to ensure integrated governance and shared vision.
 - Secure dedicated budgetary allocations to support peer-led health initiatives, ensuring sustained operational funding.
 - Strengthen local authority ownership and stewardship, embedding project goals within community development agendas.
- ### Promoting Intersectoral Integration

 - Integrate peer educators within existing health, nutrition, and youth development ecosystems.
 - Promote and support the adoption of national protocols and best practices across all intervention areas.
 - Strengthen referral pathways to ensure comprehensive and accessible adolescent-friendly services.