

# Acting for the environment and health in the face of climate change in Senegal

Casamance, region at a border area strategically located between Gambia and the two Guineas, is characterized by its diversity of ecosystems and its geostrategic importance, but is also vulnerable to climate change and anthropogenic pressures. The local health system lacks evidence to assess specific climate risks. The project therefore proposes to use a vulnerability and adaptive capacity assessment (VCA) methodology to identify and prioritize appropriate solutions.

### Some challenges:

- Deforestation, leading to climatic variations (drought, rain) and favoring zoonotic diseases.
- Unsanitary conditions linked to inadequate waste management, aggravating the risk of diarrheal diseases.
- Growing pressure on health infrastructures, exacerbated by strong demographic growth.

### **KEY DATA**

- Project duration: January 01, 2025 to December 31, 2026
- Beneficiaries: Communities, authorities, health structures.
- Source of funding : AFD, Foundation S
- Partners: Sédhiou regional and departmental health departments. Directorate of Livestock, Environment and Health. High National Council for World Health Security "One Health" in Senegal. Climate Action Accelerator (CAA). Sédhiou Women's Group
- Country: Senegal





# **OBJECTIVES**

### **General objective:**

Contribute to reducing the impact of climate change at community level on human, animal, agricultural and environmental health, in line with **MDG 13** and the national transformation agenda (Senegal 2025).

### **Specific objective**

Improve the climate change resilience of communities and targeted primary health care facilities in the Sédhiou department through a "One Health" approach and the application of climatesmart approaches.



# **EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Increased cross-functional awareness and environmental responsibility, encompassing climate change issues, are observed among target communities and professional stakeholders through an integrated "One Health" approach.
- The capacities of communities and professional players are strengthened to enable them to implement endogenous actions aimed at protecting the health of populations (human and animal) and their ecosystems.
- The resilience of primary care services is strengthened through the implementation of a series of climate solutions that have been identified using the climate change vulnerability and adaptive capacity assessment (VCA) methodology, adapted to primary care beforehand.
- Knowledge and data are generated to help advocate sustainable political action and financial support for climate-related issues and the "One Health" approach.



## **MAIN ACTIVITIES**

- Organize exchange sessions with local partners on key themes and approaches, raise awareness and organize days dedicated to climate change issues and Green awards events. Raise community awareness of the holistic concept of "One Health" on International Health Day on November 3, and educate households on waste management and sorting.
- Facilitate dialogue between local leaders and professional stakeholders on climate change issues and the "One Health" approach, to codefine real needs and reinforce ownership of the project's themes, and train professional and community stakeholders, men and women, on the "One Health" approach, climate change issues, and management and sorting.
- Adapt the VCA approach to the primary healthcare system, then implement it for health facilities with community participation. Implement a training program in sustainable healthcare, including behavior change, work methods, and energy and water consumption strategies to strengthen resilience. Assess and optimize primary healthcare structures, strengthen waste management and composting, plant native tree species, and set up a disaster management committee.
- Implement a gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation system and organize capitalization workshops and steering meetings, then communicate about the project.
- Participate in the regional dynamic around health and climate projects, organize meetings and field visits with the "One Health" National High Council for Global Health Security. Then transfer knowledge, participate in international conferences to share the project and forge partnerships.









