



# Country Factsheet: Senegal

This country factsheet offers a summary of Senegal's plastic related policy frameworks and key data concerning plastics in the economy, waste, and environment, drawing on findings from the AFRIPAC project and publicly accessible data sources. Detailed reports can be found on the AFRIPAC Data Hub<sup>1</sup>.

## National Overview

Demographic Details:		
Area (2019)	196,712 km <sup>2</sup>	UN Data <sup>2</sup>
Total population (2024)	16,700,000	
Population density (2024)	85 per km <sup>2</sup>	
Urban Population (2018)	47 %	
Population projection (2050)	32,600,000	
GDP (2024)	US\$ 27,776,000,000	

## Plastics Trade Data

HS codes are often too broad for detailed monitoring as many plastic products are not clearly identified, and trade data can be incomplete or inconsistent due to fragmented reporting. Despite these challenges, HS-based statistics still provide a reliable high-level view of plastic trade flows and use, helping to inform and support regulatory design.

Overall, trade data shows Senegal has a large, growing market, with net-import overall, but exports have expanded quickly in comparison to the region's already strong growth. PVC, packaging, and polyester/textiles are central to trade flows. Waste trade is material but declining post-Basel Convention agreements.

Data	Trends	Source
General trade trends in West Africa		
General import and export trends in West Africa (2005–2022)	<p><b>Import volume increased by 459%</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Primary forms: ↑ 556%.</li><li>Intermediate forms: ↑ 1,890%.</li><li>Final manufactured goods: ↑ 1,946%.</li><li>Plastic waste: ↑ 67% (peaked in 2014).</li></ul> <p><b>Exports volume increased by 265%</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Growth mainly in intermediate and final manufactured products.</li><li>Plastic waste exports grew from 0 to 40,000 tonnes (2005–2022).</li></ul>	UNCTAD <sup>3</sup>

Data	Trends	Source
<b>General trade trends in Senegal</b>		
<b>Imports of primary, product, and waste forms of plastic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imports grew from 189,000 to 338,000 tonnes/year (2017–2021).</li> <li>Most imports by volume were plastic products, followed by plastics in primary form.</li> <li>Waste imports: ~3,336 tonnes/year (2017–2021).</li> <li>Primary forms between 2017–2021 by volume were mostly: PVC (24%), PP (19%), LDPE (12%), PET (11%).</li> <li>Product forms between 2017–2021 by volume were mostly: Polyester (30%), LDPE &amp; PP (14% each).</li> </ul>	UNEP-IUCN Hotspotting tool <sup>4</sup>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Between 2011–2022 imports by volume were 59% of plastics in primary form, 41% products, and 0.7% waste.</li> <li>Between 2011–2022 imports by value were 52% plastics in primary form, 48% products, and 0.3% waste.</li> <li>Waste under HS code 3915: 11,426 tonnes were imported between 2011 and 2022, with most imports in 2019 (4,910 tonnes), which dropped to 372 tonnes following the Basel Convention amendments. Mostly polyethylene and polyvinyl waste.</li> </ul>	UN Comtrade <sup>5</sup>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imports have steadily increased over the last 20 years, estimated at 291,000 tonnes in 2022.</li> </ul>	UNCTAD <sup>3</sup>
<b>Exports of primary and product forms of plastic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exports rose from 5,060 to 44,600 tonnes/year (2017–2021).</li> <li>Most exports by volume were plastic products, followed by plastics in primary form.</li> <li>Waste exports ~4,085 tonnes/year (2017–2021).</li> <li>Primary forms between 2017–2021 by volume were mostly those classified as others.</li> <li>Product forms between 2017–2021 by volume were mostly: other (18%), PP (18%), LDPE (17%), and polyester (16%).</li> </ul>	UNEP-IUCN Hotspotting tool <sup>4</sup>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Between 2011–2022 exports by volume were 31% plastics in primary form, 60% products, and 9% waste.</li> <li>Between 2011–2022 exports by value were 23% plastics in primary form, 75% products, and 2% waste.</li> <li>Waste under HS code 3915: 24,485 tonnes were exported between 2011 and 2022.</li> </ul>	UN Comtrade <sup>5</sup>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exports have approximately doubled over the last 20 years, estimated at 47,000 tonnes in 2022.</li> </ul>	UNCTAD <sup>3</sup>
<b>Imports by application (top use cases)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Textiles indicate the highest annual import volume (clothes, fabrics, and fibres).</li> <li>Textile fibres have increased 3x from 2017 to 2021.</li> <li>Sanitary towels peaked in 2020, then dropped by ~50%.</li> <li>Packaging (bags and bottles) have shown significant year-on-year increases.</li> <li>Construction (tubes and hoses) also show steady growth.</li> </ul>	UNEP-IUCN Hotspotting tool <sup>4</sup>
<b>Problematic &amp; avoidable plastics (PAP) (2013–2022)</b>	<p>This section provides a brief overview of trade data on plastics that are being discussed as part of the draft Plastics Treaty negotiations, specifically a proposal submitted by Georgia, Peru, Rwanda, Switzerland, and Thailand<sup>6</sup>.</p> <p><b>Highest import volumes:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HS Code PVC (390410): Vinyl chloride, other halogenated olefin polymers; polyvinyl chloride (not mixed with other substances), in primary forms.</li> <li>HS Code PVC (390422): Vinyl chloride, other halogenated olefin polymers; polyvinyl chloride in primary forms, mixed with other substances.</li> </ol>	UN Comtrade <sup>5</sup>

Data	Trends	Source
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. HS Code PVC (392390): Plastics, articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods.</li> <li>4. PETG packaging (390769): Polyethylene terephthalate, others.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By value these are ranked 390410, 390422, 392390, and 392329 (HS Code PVC plastics; sacks and bags (including cones) for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics other than ethylene polymers).</li> </ul> <p><b>Highest export volumes:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HS Code PVC (390422): Vinyl chloride, other halogenated olefin polymers; polyvinyl chloride in primary forms, mixed with other substances.</li> <li>2. HS Code PVC (392390): Plastics, articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods.</li> <li>3. HS Code PVC (392329 ): Plastics; sacks and bags (including cones) for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics other than ethylene polymers.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By value these are ranked 392329, 390422, and 392390.</li> <li>• PAP imports were ~10x higher than exports. ~20% of total trade may include such products.</li> </ul>	

*Note: UNCTAD functionally categorises plastic trade (primary to final forms, including waste) offering a strategic, lifecycle-oriented view, though less precise than UN COMTRADE data and the UNEP-IUCN Hotspotting tool as it overlooks many final plastic products, including filled packaging and embedded plastics. It is important to note that both UNCTAD and UNEP-IUCN data includes synthetic textiles and rubber into plastic categories and excludes electrical products.*

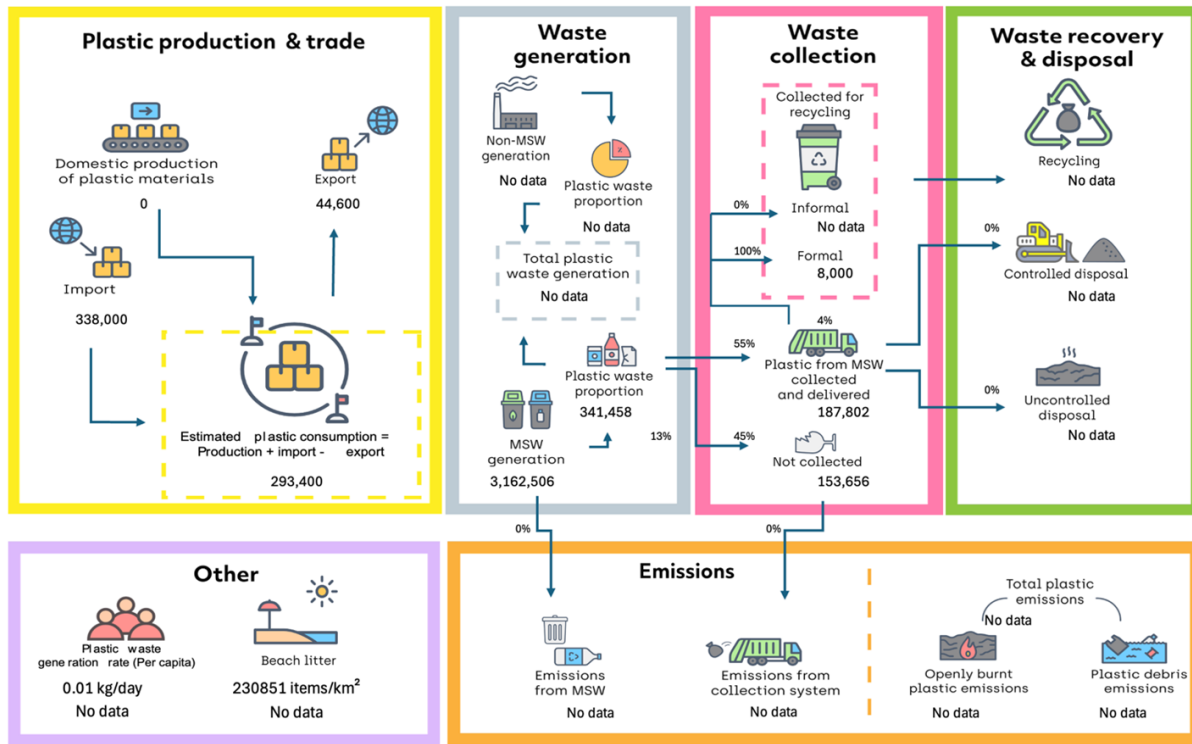
## Waste Management Data

The table compiles some of the most recent waste management and plastic leakage figures from reported data and models. Simplified material flow analysis (MFA) diagrams compare reported data with 2020 model estimates<sup>7</sup>, using key lifecycle indicators and contemporaneous trade data from the UNCTAD (experimental) database<sup>3</sup> and the UNEP-IUCN Hotspotting tool<sup>4</sup> to provide broader context.

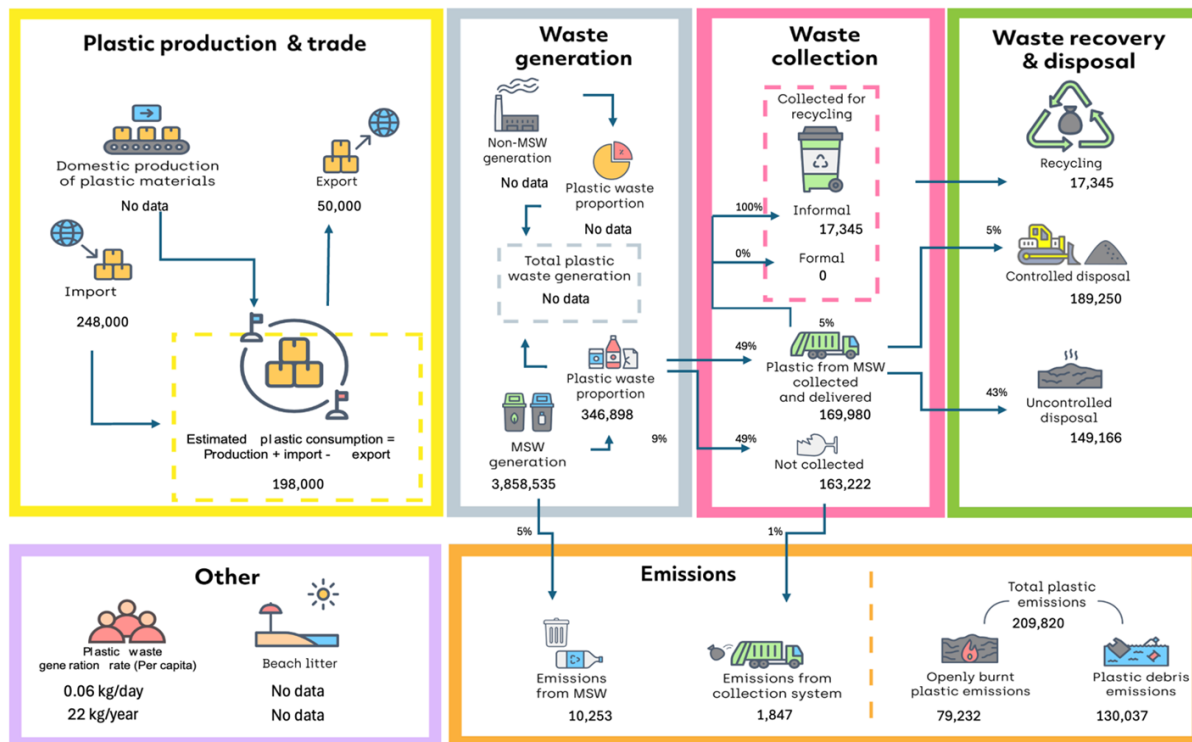
Data	Value	Unit	Source
Waste management data			
Per capita municipal solid waste (MSW) generation (2021)	0.5	kg/person/day	GIZ Sector Brief (2021) <sup>8</sup>
Total MSW generation (2021)	3,162,506	tonnes/year	
Waste sent for incineration without energy recovery (2015)	315,540		UNSD (2023) <sup>9</sup>
Per capita plastic generation (2010)	0.1	kg/person/day	Jambeck (2015) <sup>10</sup>
Total municipal plastic generation (no date)	341,458	tonnes/year	World Bank (2023) <sup>11</sup>
Plastic composition of MSW (no date) [SDG Indicator 11.6.1]	13	%	
Plastic composition of household waste (2020)	11		
MSW collection coverage (no date)	55		
MSW collection coverage in urban areas (2007)	47		
Plastics recycling (2021)	8,000	tonnes/year	GIZ Sector Brief (2021) <sup>8</sup>
Number of domestic recycling companies (2021)	15	–	
Number of unmanaged landfill sites (2021)	>40	–	
Emissions data			
Beach litter (2018) [SDG Indicator 14.1.1b]	230,851	items/km²	Global Plastics Hub <sup>14</sup>

## Simple Material Flow Analysis combining UNCTAD trade data with a) data based on sources from 2021, and b) modelled data for 2020

a)



b)



Values are in metric tonnes per year unless stated otherwise. Modelled data excludes e-waste, textiles, and rubber.

## Relevant Governance, Policy and Legislation

Theme	Policy and Legislation
<b>National coordination bodies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SONAGED (National Society for Integrated Waste management) designated as the entity responsible for waste management throughout the national territory.</li> <li>• Ministries responsible for Environment, Health (hygiene services, poison centre), Trade, Finance, and Industry.</li> <li>• Local governments and private sector (SMEs, NGOs and waste pickers).</li> <li>• The Deposit and Consignment Fund (CDC) and Senegalese Association for Standardisation (ASN).</li> <li>• PROMOGED (Project for the Promotion of Integrated Management and the Economy of Solid Waste in Senegal).</li> <li>• Basel and Stockholm Convention Regional Centre – BCRC–SCRC Senegal.</li> </ul>
<b>Plastic production and trade</b>	<p><b>Plastic Regulation (Law No. 2020-04)<sup>15</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibition of certain single-use and disposable plastic products and packaging; this includes beverage containers and lids, cutlery and plates, straws and beverage stir sticks, sachets used for selling water or other beverages.</li> <li>• Total ban on plastic bags at retail checkout with the exception for transparent, recyclable bags used at point of sale to package food.</li> <li>• Plastic products must have the name of the producer marked on the product.</li> <li>• Imposition of a tax on non-recyclable plastics to encourage use of recyclable plastics.</li> <li>• Producers must minimize waste at the source, design recyclable or eco-friendly products, and use recycled plastic in new products when feasible.</li> <li>• Recyclability standards and recyclable content requirements (TBD).</li> <li>• Extended producer responsibility (EPR) system to introduce a financial contribution and eco-modulation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Plastic Bag Regulation (Act No. 2015-09)<sup>16</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaced by Law No. 2020-04<sup>14</sup>.</li> <li>• Ban on thin plastic bags (&lt;30 µm) and restrictions on possession and use of thicker bags. Offenders may face fines between XOF 10-20 million and 3-6 months imprisonment.</li> </ul> <p><b>The General Customs Code (Law 2014-10)<sup>17</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets the legal framework for customs operations, including the import, export, and transit of goods, with provisions that can influence the regulation of hazardous materials and restricted products, such as certain plastics.</li> </ul>
<b>Plastic waste management</b>	<p><b>Plastic Regulation (Law No. 2020-04)<sup>15</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of national eco-organisation for waste logistics.</li> <li>• EPR makes producers responsible for waste generated, source sorting, collection, treatment, and clean-up costs.</li> <li>• Producers and importers can develop collective organisations to manage waste following approval by the Minister of Environment (MoE).</li> <li>• Mandatory deposit-refund systems (DRS) on plastic bottles to improve collection and recycling.</li> <li>• Producers are responsible for recovery, reporting, and must prioritise reuse and recycling.</li> <li>• Mandatory selective collection targets.</li> <li>• Penalties for illegal dumping.</li> <li>• Prohibits plastic waste imports in national territory, while Article 20 makes the export subject to the authorization of the MoE.</li> <li>• Mandate sets a minimum price per kilogram of plastic waste that recycling companies must pay.</li> </ul> <p><b>National Waste Management Programme (PNGD) (2016)<sup>13</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A scheme to provide municipal development investment and another to strengthen local governments' institutional, technical, organisational, and financial capacities.</li> <li>• The objectives of the PNGD are to contribute to improving public health by ensuring more than 75% of the population have access to public sanitation services; generate wealth by recycling waste, aiming to increase the sector's annual turnover to more than XOF 45 billion (EUR 68.43 million).</li> </ul>

Theme	Policy and Legislation
	<p><b>Environmental Code (Law No. 2023-15)<sup>18</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandates environmentally sound disposal or recycling of all types of waste.</li> <li>• Contains a chapter on waste management but decrees and orders are not yet adopted.</li> <li>• Decree 2008-1007 regulates the management of biomedical waste but needs updating.</li> <li>• Decree 74-338 regulates the disposal of household waste but needs updating.</li> </ul> <p><b>National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (2020-2024)<sup>8</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aims to strengthen governance and oversight of hazardous waste through effective regulatory and institutional frameworks, including monitoring and evaluation systems.</li> <li>• Aims to modernise hazardous waste management using best available practises, supported by sustainable financing mechanisms under Senegal's enhanced Environmental Code.</li> <li>• Senegal adheres to the third amendment of the Basel Convention (2021) to regulate plastic waste movement, especially under HS Code 3915, and includes plastic waste as a hazardous waste.</li> <li>• Ban on importing plastic waste into Senegal and restrictions on exports unless approved by the MoE and the importing country has adequate treatment facilities.</li> </ul>
Non-plastic specific policies	<p><b>Constitution (Law No. 2001-03)<sup>19</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated in 2016, this law guarantees all citizens the right to health and a healthy environment with an obligation for the public authorities to ensure it for the population by the fight against pollution and nuisances.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health Code (Law 83-71)<sup>20</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes general regulations to protect public health in Senegal, covering hygiene, disease prevention, and environmental health.</li> <li>• The Code prohibits the mixing of household waste, anatomical or contagious waste, pharmaceutical products and any other toxic product, as well as waste and waste from slaughterhouses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Merchant Shipping Code (Act 2002-22)<sup>21</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulates maritime navigation, shipping operations, marine pollution prevention, and the safety and environmental standards.</li> <li>• Part of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Convention, of which Annex V is specific to garbage (including plastics) and prohibits the discharge of plastics into the sea.</li> <li>• Requires ships to store, process, and discharge waste properly at port reception facilities.</li> </ul> <p><b>General Code of Local Authorities (Act 2013-10)<sup>22</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defines the roles and responsibilities of local governments in governance, public services, environmental management, and sustainable development initiatives.</li> </ul>
Regional conventions	<p><b>Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa<sup>23</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibits the import of hazardous waste into Africa and promotes sound management of hazardous waste within African countries.</li> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 1994.</li> </ul> <p><b>Abidjan Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Maritime Environment and the Coastal Zone of the West African Region<sup>24</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 1982, it is part of a network of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, aiming to prevent, reduce, and combat pollution in the marine environment and inland waters, while ensuring the environmentally sound management of natural resources using the most appropriate means available within a State's capabilities.</li> <li>• Established obligations to prevent, reduce, and combat pollution from ships, aircraft, land-based sources, airborne sources, and activities related to exploitation of the seabed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Environmental Policy (2008) and Regulation (C/REG.17/12/23)<sup>25</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECOWAS includes 15 countries and was established in 1975, with revisions in 1993 that were ratified by Senegal in 1995.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides a regional environmental governance framework and Environmental Action Plan (2020–2026) for ECOWAS Member States to support implementation of regional and international commitments.</li> <li>• Establishes conditions for the prohibition and authorisation of plastic bags (&lt;60µm), packaging, single-use or disposable products and waste.</li> <li>• Establishes structures and mechanisms for cooperation in the control of the production and marketing of plastic containers and other articles, plastic product harmonisation, and the environmentally sound management of plastic waste.</li> <li>• Facilitates the creation of a circular economy through market, economy, and policy instruments (taxes on imports of plastic products, conditions for authorization by the competent authorities for placing biodegradable or special-purpose plastic articles or packaging on the market, eco-design standards, financial incentives, DRS for plastic bottles, mandatory take-back programs for used plastic products for marketers and distributors, mandatory marking of plastic products, EPR systems that cover the costs of processing and cleaning up waste from plastic products, establishment of national entity for plastic waste logistics, mandatory curb side recycling targets under EPR).</li> <li>• Restrictions on landfilling of plastic waste, ban on open burning and incineration of plastics, and penalties for illegal dumping.</li> <li>• Not fully applied due to lack of implementing texts and national integration.</li> </ul> <p><b>Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa (2008)<sup>26</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signed by Senegal in 2008, the declaration commits governments to address public health challenges linked to environmental factors through intersectoral collaboration, capacity building, surveillance, and policy integration.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ouagadougou Declaration on Primary Health Care and Health Systems in Africa (2008)<sup>27</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signed by Senegal in 2008, the declaration calls for an integrated, multisectoral approach to health, recognizing that social, economic, environmental, and governance factors are deeply linked to health outcomes.</li> <li>• Highlights climate change and environmental sustainability as key health determinants, reinforcing the need to link environmental action (e.g., plastic pollution control) with health strategies.</li> </ul>
International conventions	<p><b>The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992)<sup>28</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While not a treaty requiring ratification, over 175 countries (including Senegal) have signed this declaration, which outlines 27 principles that have subsequently been incorporated into international agreements and national laws. Key principles include:</li> <li>• Human centred development, promoting sustainable production and consumption, with integration of environmental protection into development policies;</li> <li>• States have the right to exploit their resources, but also the responsibility to prevent damage to the environment, including beyond their national jurisdiction;</li> <li>• The precautionary and polluter pays principles, and the need for environmental impact assessments;</li> <li>• States should cooperate to protect ecosystems and biodiversity, with environmental standards harmonised internationally;</li> <li>• Recognises various national capacities in addressing environmental damage;</li> <li>• Citizens and the use of traditional knowledge should be involved in environmental decision making;</li> <li>• Development should meet the needs of both present and future generations;</li> <li>• International and national laws should be further developed to address environmental damage and liability.</li> </ul> <p><b>Basel Convention on Transboundary Waste<sup>29</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 1992, the Convention controls transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal. It also covers 'other wastes' requiring special attention including household waste, incinerator ash, and plastic waste.</li> <li>• An amendment in 1995, which entered into force in 2019, formally prohibits the export of hazardous waste for final disposal and recycling from Annex VII countries (European Union, OECD, and Liechtenstein) to developing countries, which has not been ratified by Senegal.</li> <li>• In 1999 an Additional Protocol established a comprehensive regime of liability, adequate and prompt compensation for damage resulting from transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes and other wastes, including illicit traffic in such wastes.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2021 amendments on plastic waste became effective for all Parties that had not submitted a notification of non-acceptance:</li> <li>• Annex II (Y48) – <i>Plastic waste requiring special consideration</i>: This includes mixed, contaminated, or difficult-to-recycle plastics.</li> <li>• Annex VIII (A3210) – <i>Hazardous plastic waste</i>: Plastics that are hazardous due to contamination with chemicals or other toxic components.</li> <li>• Annex IX (B3011) – <i>Non-hazardous plastic waste that can be traded more freely</i>: This includes clean, sorted, and recyclable plastic waste intended for environmentally sound recycling.</li> <li>• Plastic wastes that fall under Annex II or VIII now require Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure expansion.</li> <li>• In 2022, new technical directives and guidelines on the environmentally sound management of waste, including plastic waste, were adopted.</li> <li>• Since 2005, Senegal has been the Regional Centre for the Basel and Stockholm Conventions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rotterdam Convention on Hazardous Chemicals<sup>30</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes shared responsibilities in relation to the trade of hazardous chemicals and pesticides through a PIC procedure.</li> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 2001, it has led to the development of a national profile on chemicals management, including:</li> <li>• The coverage of chemicals and pesticides in the 2001 Environmental Code, replaced by the 2023 Code.</li> <li>• The creation of a national commission for the management of chemicals.</li> <li>• The adoption of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.</li> <li>• The creation of a poison control centre.</li> </ul> <p><b>Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)<sup>31</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 2003, aiming to eliminate or restrict the production and use of POPs.</li> <li>• The Convention lists a number of plastic additives to eliminate.</li> <li>• At a national level, a number of actions have been taken to implement this policy:</li> <li>• The inventory of POPs in 2003.</li> <li>• The development of a national POPs management profile in 2004.</li> <li>• The development of a national chemicals management profile in 2011.</li> <li>• The development of a national implementation profile for the Stockholm Convention.</li> <li>• The socio-economic study of the use of POPs in 2004.</li> <li>• The adoption of a national implementation plan in 2005, updated 2015.</li> <li>• The adoption in 2008 of a decree prohibiting the import, production and use of pesticides and chemicals.</li> <li>• The minimization of the production of Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPNI) in the cities of Tivaouane and Ziguinchor and at the national level through the directorates of the central services of the environment, health, handicrafts, etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Minamata Convention on Mercury<sup>32</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protects human health and the environment from emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds, aiming to ban the use and reduce emissions.</li> <li>• The Convention was ratified by Senegal in 2016, with an action plan drafted that has enabled:</li> <li>• The identification of gaps and challenges in the existing legal and institutional framework and the reforms needed to implement the Convention.</li> <li>• The identification of technical, human and financial capacity building needs.</li> <li>• Drafting an inventory of sources of mercury releases and emissions.</li> </ul> <p><b>United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)<sup>33</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 1984, it establishes a comprehensive legal framework governing all activities on oceans and seas, including marine environmental protection, resource management, and measures to prevent, reduce, and control marine pollution.</li> </ul> <p><b>International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) (1973)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senegal ratified MARPOL Annex V in 2005, which strictly prohibits the discharge of plastics into the sea and mandates responsible shipboard waste management, including storage, segregation, and disposal at designated port reception facilities.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) have established a general Action Plan to address marine litter from ships.</li> </ul> <p><b>Agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) (2023)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) ensures the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, covering marine genetic resources, area-based management tools, environmental impact assessments, and capacity building. The BBNJ was signed by Senegal in 2023 but has not yet ratified.</li> </ul> <p><b>The London Convention (1972)<sup>34</sup> and London Protocol (1996)<sup>35</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibits the incineration and dumping of certain types of wastes and substances contained in the list set out.</li> <li>• Not ratified by Senegal.</li> </ul> <p><b>International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)<sup>36</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensures maritime safety but indirectly supports marine environmental protection by requiring safe waste handling practices aboard ships, including plastics.</li> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 1997.</li> </ul> <p><b>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)<sup>37</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 1994, the Convention promotes the conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits.</li> <li>• Target 7 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (2021) emphasises the importance of reducing pollution, with a specific focus on plastic pollution.</li> <li>• Senegal also ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in 2004 and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing in 2016.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>38</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All United Nations Member States adopted the 17 SDGs as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015.</li> <li>• Aiming to transform societies and economies to become more sustainable, balancing economic growth, social development, and environmental protection.</li> <li>• Includes suggested indicators for monitoring each goal.</li> <li>• Emphasizes the importance of reaching the most vulnerable and marginalised populations.</li> <li>• Requires partnerships and collaborations between governments, the private sector, civil society and individuals.</li> <li>• The most relevant goals for plastic policies include SDG 1: No poverty, SDG 3: Good health and well-being, SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation, SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth, SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities, SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production, SDG 13: Climate action, SDG 14: Life below water, SDG 15: Life on land, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)<sup>39</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratified by Senegal in 2016, the Convention aims to limit global warming to below 1.5°C through nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>• The Paris Agreement makes no reference to fossil fuels or their petrochemical derivatives. Even if fully implemented, State's NDCs remain inadequate to limit warming to 1.5°C.</li> </ul> <p><b>World Trade Organization Policies and Practices<sup>40</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senegal has been a member of the WTO since 1995, which establishes global trade rules, including agreements that affect goods and services, and addresses trade-related aspects of environmental measures, promoting sustainable development.</li> <li>• Senegal was also a member of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT) since 1963, which was replaced by the WTO in 1995.</li> </ul>

## Key Gaps and Recommendations

Category	Identified Gaps	Recommendations
<b>Legislative and regulatory framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of a national policy on plastics management.</li> <li>• Scattered, unclear laws; missing decrees on import/export, EPR, eco-design, labelling, standards, taxation.</li> <li>• Limited implementation of existing national and international obligations.</li> <li>• Lack of technical tools (e.g., market control tools, enforcement mechanisms).</li> <li>• Absence of regulations on plastic waste, deposits, eco-organisations.</li> <li>• Lack of criteria and incentives for circular economy and recycling.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an integrated national plastics policy aligned with national, regional, and international obligations.</li> <li>• Review and harmonise legislation; revise 2020 law to include implementation tools and international commitments.</li> <li>• Adopt decrees/orders to regulate import/export, EPR, eco-organisations, labelling, taxation.</li> <li>• Develop a national plastic pollution strategy including action plan, enforcement tools, and capacity building.</li> <li>• Conduct impact studies to support financial instruments in the 2020 law.</li> <li>• Introduce tax incentives and technical criteria to support recycling and circular economy.</li> </ul>
<b>Institutional framework and intersectoral coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No formal coordination framework.</li> <li>• Overlapping roles between SONAGED, local authorities, and Ministries.</li> <li>• Absence of explicit roles in legal frameworks.</li> <li>• Weak strategic alignment between SONAGED and environmental ministry.</li> <li>• No structure for coordinating the circular economy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a multi-stakeholder governance platform.</li> <li>• Clarify mandates of SONAGED, local authorities, and ministries.</li> <li>• Amend 2020 law to define roles clearly.</li> <li>• Align SONAGED under environmental ministry for policy coherence.</li> <li>• Create a dedicated circular economy department to centralize initiatives, monitor indicators, coordinate stakeholders, and manage plastic tax funds.</li> </ul>
<b>Implementation tools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of enforcement and technical tools for plastics control (e.g., density, conformity).</li> <li>• Unclear legal scope and limited follow-through on commitments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support implementation of existing instruments under 2020 law.</li> <li>• Provide capacity-building and technical support to enforcement agencies.</li> <li>• Promote dialogue at SONAGED, PROMOGED, ECOWAS levels.</li> </ul>
<b>Financing and economic incentives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited financial/fiscal capacity.</li> <li>• No green public procurement or incentives to use recycled materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce sustainability criteria into public procurement.</li> <li>• Channel tax revenues to circular economy projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Human and technical capacities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of trained personnel for customs, trade control, and domestic monitoring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish training and support programs for stakeholders.</li> <li>• Strengthen training for customs and environmental enforcement officers.</li> <li>• Provide technical support for market surveillance and compliance.</li> </ul>

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