

**Bureau of Counterterrorism**  
**Country Reports on Terrorism 2013**  
**Report**

**SENEGAL**

Overview: The Government of Senegal is a Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP) nation; addressing the crisis in Mali and countering violent extremism were among its highest foreign policy priorities in 2013. It has contributed more than 900 troops to the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and worked to enhance the capabilities of its police, gendarme, intelligence, and military forces to fight terrorist threats. In June 2013, Senegal's Minister of Interior, General Pathe Seck, announced the development of the "Kaaraange Plan" ("Protection Plan" in Wolof) aimed at anticipating and preventing threats from terrorist groups. The three-year plan will be a joint effort between the police and gendarmerie, with training support from France. In November 2013, President Macky Sall also publicly requested that the Senegalese army pay special attention to the fight against terrorism.

The government worked closely with U.S. military and law enforcement officials to strengthen their capabilities in the fight against terrorism. The risk of violent extremism and terrorist activity in Senegal increased in 2013 following public threats against the country by terrorist organizations in northern Mali. While actual terrorist activity remained lower than in other parts of the Sahel, Senegal's government remained concerned that terrorist organizations were crossing into the country through its porous borders.

Legislation, Law Enforcement, and Border Security: In 2007, the Government of Senegal amended its criminal code to establish criminal offenses for terrorist acts as defined in the Organization of African Unity Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism. In addition, 12 separate articles in the criminal code provide the Government of Senegal the authority to prosecute terrorist activities.

The Government of Senegal's Ministry of Justice made positive improvements in the effectiveness of the judicial system in 2013, including reinstating the Court of Illicit Enrichment to try cases of corruption. Efforts to strengthen the criminal justice systems in Senegal included multiple training sessions for law enforcement officers and government executives on such matters as crime scene investigation, border security, cyber criminality, and kidnapping for ransom. Several Senegalese officers received training in

the United States at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and elsewhere.

Senegal's gendarmerie, national police, and judicial police have insufficient capacity and resources to detect, deter, and prevent acts of terrorism in their own territory. Senegal worked to improve its law enforcement capacity by participating in multilateral training events organized by the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), AU, and the Economic Community of West Africa (ECOWAS). The U.S. Department of State's Antiterrorism Assistance (ATA) program provided training and enabling equipment to build their investigative and border security capacities. Through the Regional Strategic Initiative (RSI), ATA helped establish a Cyber Crime Investigative Unit with the Senegalese National Police, Criminal Investigative Unit. Senegal's law enforcement officers regularly attended courses at the International Law Enforcement Academy in Gaborone, Botswana, and were active participants in the U.S. State Department-supported training at its Regional Training Center in Accra, Ghana.

Senegalese officials identified a lack of border resources and regional cooperation as security vulnerabilities. In July, Senegal began requiring biometric visas for all individuals entering the country with non-ECOWAS passports. Senegal is implementing a U.S.-supported Automated Fingerprint Identification System, and collects border control cards. The United States provided training to Senegalese border officials and airline representatives on the identification of counterfeit and falsified travel documents.

While Senegal increased its entry requirements at the country's main airport in Dakar, the remaining land and water crossings have little or no surveillance. The United States provided border security related trainings, including border security interdiction courses held in the United States and West Africa, and counter proliferation pathways training to help identify the potential illicit pathways used by individuals or groups to move illegal commodities across international borders.

Significant law enforcement actions against terrorists or terrorist groups in 2013 included the arrest of Imam Babacar Dianko. An investigation revealed that Dianko had links to the terrorist group Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa.

Corruption and lack of infrastructure act as an impediment to more effective Senegalese law enforcement and border security, as does a chronic lack of equipment and the inability of authorities to maintain their current stocks.

Countering the Financing of Terrorism: Senegal is a member of the Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA), a Financial Action Task Force-style (FATF) regional body. A recent FATF/GIABA West Africa terrorism finance typology featured several case studies from Senegal. These case studies included support given to terrorists through abuse of the real estate sector, the abuse of hawaladars to finance violent extremists, and the use of politically exposed persons to transfer terrorist funds.

Senegal is exploited by various illicit actors to access West Africa, Europe, and South America. It is likely that trade-based money laundering and the use of mobile payment methods are exploited by a wide range of illicit actors including terrorist financiers.

At the regional level, Senegal implemented the anti-money laundering/countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) framework by the member states of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU). All member states are bound to enact and implement the legislation. Among the WAEMU countries, Senegal was the first to have the new AML/CFT legal framework in place. The Regional Council for Public Savings and Financial markets is the body responsible for the control of financial markets in the WAEMU.

Senegal established procedures for the freezing of an account and other assets of known and suspected terrorists and terrorist organizations. Article 42 of Act #90-6 (1990) requires banks and financial institutions to notify the Central Bank if such a person should try to open an account. The Central Bank of West African States and national financial intelligence unit (CENTIF) also circulate the consolidated list of the UNSCR 1267/1989 (al-Qa'ida) Sanctions Committee to commercial financial institutions.

For further information on money laundering and financial crimes, see the 2014 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (INCSR), Volume 2, Money Laundering and Financial Crimes:  
<http://www.state.gov/j/inl/rls/nrcrpt/index.htm>.

Regional and International Cooperation: Senegal is a member of the UN, AU, ECOWAS, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. It is also an active participant in the GCTF's Sahel Regional Capacity Building Working Group, and participated in its Sahel Cross-Border Workshop in Niamey, Niger in October 2013. Later that month, Senegal and France co-hosted a Sahel Regional Capacity Building Working Group local meeting in Dakar to raise awareness of the terrorist threat in Senegal and to

discuss the government's counterterrorism priorities. Senegal is also a signatory to the Rabat Declaration, and attended the November 2013 Rabat Conference on border security.

Countering Radicalization to Violence and Violent Extremism: Senegal is a country that is traditionally resistant to violent extremism because of its Sufi mystical religious base. Cultural opposition to intolerance and radicalism is widespread. Senegal is organized around several influential brotherhoods who are generally tolerant and do not preach violent extremist ideology. These brotherhoods are also fairly resistant to external influences. The Government of Senegal continued its outreach to the brotherhoods to build partnerships to counter any violent extremist messaging and recruitment.