



15.3.2022

MISSION REPORT

following the Committee on Budgets' delegation to Senegal, 21-25 February 2022

Committee on Budgets

Members of the mission:

Margarida MARQUES	(S&D), (Leader of the mission)
José Manuel FERNANDES	(EPP)
Robert BIEDROŃ	(S&D)
Rasmus ANDRESEN	(Greens/EFA)
Bogdan RZONCA	(ECR)

BUDG delegation to Senegal

21-25 February 2022

Mission Report

Table of contents

Contents

I. Mission Programme.....	3
II. Overview of the mission	6
III. Summaries of meetings.....	8
1. Meeting with the Head of the EU Delegation, Ms Irene Mingasson (joint with PECH) ...	8
2. Meeting with the Minister of Local Authorities and government spokesperson, Mr Oumar Gueye	9
3. Visit of the ACASEN food processing company, beneficiary of the EUTF-financed PASPED project (Programme de lutte contre la migration irrégulière à travers l'appui au Secteur Privé et à la création d'emplois au Sénégal).....	10
4. Presentation of the Tekki Fii communication campaign	12
5. Visit of the Centre d'Etat civil secondaire of Thiès Ouest and discussion with implementing partners of the NEKKAL project.....	13
6. Visit of the Bureau d'Accueil, d'Orientation et de Suivi (BAOS) of Thiès	15
7. Visit of two vegetable-growing smallholdings, part of the Projet d'appui à la réduction de l'émigration rurale dans le bassin arachidier (PARERBA).....	16
8. Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad, Ms Aïssata Tall Sall, and the Secretary of State in charge of the Senegalese Abroad, Mr Moïse Diar Diégane Sarr.....	17
9. Meeting with the Général de Division, Haut Commandant de la Gendarmerie Nationale, Directeur de la Justice Militaire, Mr Moussa Fall	19
10. Visit of the Lionceau company, beneficiary of the EUTF-financed Investisseurs & Partenaires Accélération au Sahel (IPAS) programme	20
11. Meeting with the President of the National Assembly, Mr Moustapha Niasse (joint with PECH)	22
12. Meeting with the Director of Financial and Economic Cooperation in the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Cooperation, Mr Mamour Ousmane Bâ	23
13. Meeting with women led financial and civil society organisations - chaired by Robert Biedroń.....	24
14. Debriefing with the EU Ambassador (joint with PECH).....	25

IV. List of Participants.....	26
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I. Mission Programme

Monday 21 February 2022

Arrival of the Members and staff in Dakar and transfer to Hotel Pullman

Tuesday 22 February 2022

08.30	<i>Departure from Hotel - Transfer to the EU Delegation</i>
09.00 - 10.00	Briefing by EU Ambassador, Irene Mingasson (jointly with MEPs PECH) Introduction to EU – SN relations <i>EU Delegation, Plateau</i>
10.15 – 10.45	<i>Transfer to Ministry of Local Authorities (Sicap Liberté 3)</i>
11.00 – 12.30	Meeting with Mr Oumar Gueye, Minister of Local Authorities <i>Possible discussion topics: TF projects in which the Ministry is involved (NEKAL – etat civil), local authorities’ role in migration governance and authorities’ action in this area, perspectives on the civil registration management; strategy planned for the sustainability of the civil registry system interoperability</i>
12.30 - 14.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.35 – 16.30	Project visit: Programme de lutte contre la migration irrégulière à travers l’appui au Secteur Privé et à la création d’emplois au Sénégal (PASPED national TF project, 14.3 million EUR, implemented by AICS) <i>Visit of cashew nut, peanut and infant flour processing company + exchange with the beneficiaries.</i>
16.30 – 17.00	Point de presse
17.00 - 17.30	<i>Transfer to EU Residence (Fann Mermoz)</i>
17.30 – 19.00	Presentation of the Communication campaign Tekki Fii
19.00 – 20.00	Cocktail Tekki Fii - EU Residence

Wednesday 23 February 2022

08.30 – 10.00	<i>Departure from Hotel - Transfer to Thiès</i>
10.00 – 11.30	Project visit: Programme de Renforcement du Système d'Etat civil et de Consolidation d'un fichier national d'identité biométrique (TF national project, implemented by Civipol and Enabel, 28 million EUR) – Meeting with the mayors, visit of civil registration centre in Thiès and discussion with Civipol, Enabel and agents.
11.30 – 11.40	<i>Transfer (Thiès)</i>
11.40 – 12.45	Project visit: Projet Gouvernance Migration et Développement (TF national project, implemented by AECID, 10 million EUR) Visit of BAOS de Thiès - In 2013, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided to open a regional Bureau d'Accueil d'Orientation et de Suivi (BAOS) to provide assistance to Senegalese from abroad, as an initiative to manage the migration issue throughout the Senegalese territory. It is an initiative that aims to significantly mitigate the risks associated with irregular migration, the loss of family economies, internal security, etc. The project reinforced / accompanied the implementation of the BAOS, of which only 1 or 2 were functional: rehabilitation of the offices, acquisition of office equipment and transportation means, recruitment of staff. The BAOS in Thiès is now equipped and functional, with staff on site.
12.45 – 13.00	<i>Transfer (Thiès)</i>
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch (Restaurant Massa Massa)</i>
14.00 – 14.30	<i>Transfer (Thiès)</i>
14.30 – 16.30	Project visit : Projet d'appui à la réduction de l'émigration rurale dans le bassin arachidier - PARERBA (EUTF / 8 million euro) – implemented by Enabel. Visit of farms currently in production, interviews with producers' cooperatives, visits to production and/or marketing units of agricultural products.
16.30 – 19.00	<i>Transfer from Thiès to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>
19.00 – 20.30	Meeting with Ms Aïssata Tall Sall, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal

Thursday 24 February 2022

08.30 – 09.00	<i>Depart from Hotel - Transfer to North of Dakar (Ngor)</i>
09.00 – 10.20	Meeting with <i>Haut Commandement de la Gendarmerie Nationale</i> <i>Exchange on GARSI project (Groupe d'Action Rapide de Surveillance et Intervention au Sahel - 7.2 million EUR) and other related issues.</i>
10.20 – 10.40	<i>Transfer to Yoff</i>
10.40 – 12.00	Project visit: <i>Investisseurs & Partenaires Accélération au Sahel</i> (TF regional project, in Senegal implemented by Teranga Capital, 15.5 million EUR) <i>Visit of Lionceau company specialised in the production and marketing of smooth purée for children from 6 months to 36 months, created with support of this project's funds. Exchange with the beneficiary.</i>
12.00 – 12.30	<i>Transfer to the National Assembly, Place Soweto, Plateau</i>
12.30 – 14.00	Meeting with the President and Members of the National Assembly (PECH+BUDG)
14.00 – 15.20	<i>Lunch - Restaurant L'Ecurie, Petite corniche ouest</i>
15.20 – 15.30	<i>Transfer to Ministry of Economy, Planning and Cooperation</i>
15.30 – 16.20	Ministry of Economy, Planning and Cooperation - Meeting with the Director of Financial and Economic Cooperation (this Ministry is the EU's main focal point for its cooperation in Senegal. <i>Possible discussion topics: general overview of EU's development cooperation projects in Senegal, the economic perspectives for Senegal and its potential impacts on migration and development.</i>)
16.20 – 16.30	<i>Transfer</i>
16.30 – 17.15	Meeting with women led financial and civil society organisations - Meeting chaired exceptionally by Robert Biedroń
17.15 – 17.30	<i>Transfer</i>
17.30 – 18.30	Debriefing with the EU ambassador in the EU Residence

Friday 25 February 2022*Return of the Members and staff to the EU*

II. Overview of the mission

The objective of this mission was to review the results of programmes funded through the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa in Senegal. It aimed to learn more about the concrete use of EU financial support, assessing the quality of implementation and effectiveness on the ground, and evaluating the country's current and future needs for assistance through the Union budget.

Five BUDG Members participated in the mission (Chair of the delegation, Margarida MARQUES, José Manuel FERNANDES, Robert BIEDRON, Rasmus ANDRESEN and Bogdan RZONCA). The DEVE Committee was unable to send a Member (the association had been authorised by the Conference of Presidents).

The programme was particularly intense and included a full day of field visits outside of Dakar. Over the three days of the mission on the ground, the Members met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Senegalese Abroad, the Minister of Local Authorities, the Director of Financial and Economic Cooperation in the Ministry of Economic, Planning and Cooperation, the President of the National Assembly, Committee Chairs from the National Assembly, the EU and Member States' Ambassadors, as well as civil society organisations. In addition, Members visited EUTF-funded projects in Dakar and in the region of Thiès. A press conference was held on the first day with the local press.

Cooperation with the EEAS and, in particular, the EU Ambassador and her team was excellent, both in terms of logistical support - before and during the mission - and of political advice on the ground.

Conclusions and recommendations:

- Members warmly welcomed the results of the implementation of the EUTF-funded projects and insisted on the need to create opportunities for young people in Senegal and in Africa more broadly.
- Members appreciated the deep cooperation links between Senegal and the EU.
- Many discussions centred on the economic situation of Senegal, how the EU could better target its help and support to business start-ups and how its influence faces the competition of other global actors, such as China or Turkey.
- Members insisted on the importance of human rights and recommended that it should always be a pillar of the EU external action.

Mission debriefing:

The debriefing on the mission took place in the BUDG meeting of 17 March 2022.

III. Summaries of meetings

1. Meeting with the Head of the EU Delegation, Ms Irene Mingasson (joint with PECH)



The EU Ambassador

- Pointed to the recent events which reinforced the strong relationship between Senegal and the EU: the BUDG and PECH missions, the ongoing visit of German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, the EU-Africa summit of 17-18 February, the visit of President von der Leyen together with 5 Commissioners on 9-10 February, and the visit of President Michel on 6 December,
- Regretted nevertheless the resurgence of a form of distrust vis-à-vis Europe, in particular in the fishing sector, due to the migration policy of the EU,
- Emphasised that the role of the EU is to create more opportunities in Senegal, as the first migratory movement is internal, from the rural areas to the cities, in particular Dakar, and that this should be done in a 'Team Europe' format, which proved to be a successful model through the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (the EUTF) with many positive spill-over effects.

The BUDG Members

- Highlighted the fact that Europe should provide Africa with growth and stability now in order to avoid problems in the future,
- Insisted on the importance of including future development funds, such as trust funds, in the EU budget.

2. Meeting with the Minister of Local Authorities and government spokesperson, Mr Oumar Gueye

The Minister

- Highlighted the commitment of his country to democracy, peace, secularism, human rights and representation of women in politics,
- Reviewed the main policies launched by the government lately, in particular the ‘Plan Sénégal Emergent’ (PSE), and reiterated the needs of his country in the energy, infrastructure, human capital and governance sectors,
- Introduced the Nekkall project, financed by the EU through the EUTF and implemented by CIVIPOL (FR development agency) and ENABEL (BE development agency), and insisted on its importance as it relates to key State needs and obligations to its citizens,
- Stressed that Senegal has found offshore sources of petrol and gas and asked for the EU’s support in exploiting its gas, recalled that the African continent’s pollution levels are very low.

Members

- Confirmed their commitment to the EU's cooperation with the Republic of Senegal and encouraged the authorities to continue their efforts to develop renewable energy sources and strengthen stability and governance in the country,
- Expressed concerns over the situation of LGBTQI+ minorities and poor children.



3. Visit of the ACASEN food processing company, beneficiary of the EUTF-financed PASPED project (*Programme de lutte contre la migration irrégulière à travers l'appui au Secteur Privé et à la création d'emplois au Sénégal*)



The beneficiaries

- Presented the ACASEN company which produces nuts and other snacking products, informally launched in 1992 and officially created in 2022, led by a woman and with 80 % women employees,
- Explained how the EUR 30 000 the company received through the EUTF programme enabled the company to keep functioning despite the COVID-19 crisis, helped finance the donation of 453 boxes of high-energy-density infant flour, and gave them the opportunity to buy a land to build a factory,
- Outlined the plans of the company for the future, including the building of a EUR 4 million factory to produce frozen fries, in partnership with ENABEL (the Belgian development agency), which would employ 200 workers and include a childcare facility.



The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

- Presented the PLASPERI project (*Programme d'Appui au Secteur Privé et à la Valorisation de la Diaspora Sénégalaise en Italie*), worth EUR 41 million co-financed by the Italian and Senegalese governments, which preceded the PASPED project,
- Detailed the PASPED project (from which ACASEN benefitted), which provided emergency support to 195 companies with a budget totalling EUR 14.3 million from the EUTF over the years 2020 and 2021, securing the employment of 7,000 workers, financing “solidarity production” of food for vulnerable populations (120,000 persons reached), paid internship contracts for 2,300 young workers, and funding 52 start-up projects led by the Senegalese diaspora.

Members

- Welcomed the involvement of women in the company and their role as “cheffe de famille” (main breadwinner in the family),
- Admired the added social value of the company, its inclusivity and expressed their support for its work,
- Showed interest in the religious diversity of the workers in the ACASEN company,
- Explained the objectives of the BUDG mission to the local press¹, jointly with the EU Ambassador².



¹ https://www.dakaractu.com/ACASEN-cinq-deputes-membres-de-l-Union-europeenne-sur-les-traces-d-un-fonds-fiduciaire-de-30-000_a215289.html

² https://www.dakaractu.com/Lutte-contre-la-migration-irreguliere-L-ambassadrice-de-l-UE-au-Senegal-promet-la-creation-d-opportunites-pour-eradiquer_a215288.html

4. Presentation of the Tekki Fii communication campaign



The EU Delegation and the implementing partners

- Informed Members about the Tekki Fii (*Succeed here* in Wolof) communication campaign, financed by the EUTF, launched in 2017, to make young people aware of the dangers of irregular migration, and which has reached more than 2 million people,
- Detailed the different elements of the campaign:
 - Six information “caravans” reached 40 communities and more than 100,000 people, organising 30 concerts and giving professional training to young people;
 - A TV series called “Tekki Fii” aired on the Senegalese national television channel reached between 700,000 and 1 million people;
 - A song called Gëm Na Tekki Fi was viewed more than 900,000 times on Youtube;
- Thanked the EU for giving the opportunity to young Senegalese working in the cultural sector to take part in such a project, which they personally care about as they have either suffered from irregular migration themselves or lost loved ones to it.

Members

- Highly appreciated the work undertaken and the success of the campaign and encouraged the parties to continue the discussion on irregular migration.

The meeting was followed by a cocktail. Members could exchange with ambassadors from EU Member States, staff of the EU Delegation and Tekki Fii implementing partners.



5. Visit of the *Centre d'Etat civil secondaire* of Thiès Ouest and discussion with implementing partners of the NEKKAL project

The Mayor of the Thiès Ouest commune and the employees of the Centre d'Etat civil secondaire

- Detailed the functioning of the centre, open since 2016, and the statistics for 2021 (150 births, 22 weddings and 19 deaths), which they estimate to be a third of the actual numbers regarding births and half for weddings and deaths, and welcomed the construction of a new centre,
- Explained that people are not yet used to registering births, weddings, divorces and deaths, and that the centre tries to raise awareness them through neighbourhood representatives and health professionals,
- Warmly thanked the EU for its support and the Members for taking the time to visit them.

Members

- Were informed that the State does not want to impose penalties on those who fail to declare, and aims to incentivise registrations through the promise of accessing health and social services,

- Suggested involving youth organisations in the awareness-raising campaigns,
- Welcomed the involvement of locally elected officials, in particular mayors, in convincing the population to declare civil events.

The Senegalese government representative

- Welcomed the EU's funding of the Nekkall (*exist* in Wolof) programme, worth EUR 28 million, and present in all 14 regions of Senegal,
- Emphasised the political support for the project, with the personal involvement of the President Macky Sall, as the programme touches upon the sovereignty of the State.

ENABEL (BE development agency) and Civipol (FR development agency)

- Reviewed the three focal points of the Nekkall programme (financed by the EUTF):
 - Improvement of the strategic management of the civil registration and vital statistics;
 - Reinforcement of the population's access to quality civil registration and vital statistics services (in particular through the construction of 34 civil registration sites and the renovation of 80 sites and 188 archive rooms by end 2023);
 - Implementation of a national civil status information system connected to a biometric identification file.



6. Visit of the Bureau d'Accueil, d'Orientation et de Suivi (BAOS) of Thiès

The implementing partners

- Explained how the BAOS of Thiès is financed entirely through the EUR 10 million EUTF *Projet Gouvernance Migration et Développement*, and implemented by the EU Delegation and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), in partnership with the Senegalese government,



- Underlined that the objective of the programme is to receive and provide guidance to returning migrants or persons who are turning to migration, in particular to offer them training, in the BAOS in all the regions of Senegal, which is carried out in conjunction with the Tekki Fii communication campaign,
- Detailed the functioning of the BAOS of Thiès, which has received 700 persons since September 2021, with the involvement of local NGOs.

Returning migrants

- Testified to the horrors of irregular migration through Libya and the need to prevent young people from going through it,
- Thanked the EU for providing solutions to people who see migration as the only possibility for a future.

Members

- Emphasised the moral obligation of solidarity the EU has to offer opportunities to young people and the importance of the right to migrate safely, while acknowledging that most people want to live in their home country in good conditions,
- Were informed that the project, which was already extended by one year, is due to end in 2023 and that a contribution from the EU after that would be highly welcomed since changing mentalities concerning migration takes time.

7. Visit of two vegetable-growing smallholdings, part of the Projet d'appui à la réduction de l'émigration rurale dans le bassin arachidier (PARERBA)

The beneficiaries

- Guided the Members through their smallholdings (*fermes maraîchères*), which are owned and run by the farmers themselves (39 people for the first and 50 for the second, 45 % young people) and where the EUTF financed for EUR 65 939 in the first and EUR 83 462 in the second the following infrastructures: the drilling of wells, the installation of solar panels to activate the water pump, toilets and fences to protect the smallholdings from wild animals,

- Acknowledged the importance of the project, which contributed locally to slowing the rural exodus by offering secure employment to young people,

- Explained that, traditionally, farmers only worked in their fields 3 months a year (during the rainy season) and that they are now able to work all year long thanks to the project,

- Detailed how farmers were involved in a participative and inclusive process in the development of the project, trained in farming techniques to increase the productivity and a the earning objective they had set for themselves of CFA 56 000 / EUR 86 per month (compared to CFA 40 000 / EUR 61 per month on average in Senegal),

- Explained that one of the two smallholdings also serves as a training centre where 200 young farmers will learn about farming techniques and become able to train others.





Members

- Expressed their appreciation for the work undertaken by the beneficiaries and the impressive involvement of women,
- Were informed that rules on land and water use in the country are precise and rigorous, and that their disrespect leads to sanctions,
- Were informed that such projects enable women to provide food security to their family and children and finance their education.

8. Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad, Ms Aïssata Tall Sall, and the Secretary of State in charge of the Senegalese Abroad, Mr Moïse Diar Diégane Sarr



The Members

- Enquired how the EU could better support Senegal, in particular in fighting climate change, and what was the Minister's take on the results of the EUTF programmes,
- Asked how Senegal, in its quality of President of the African Union, would monitor the respect of the EU-Africa Summit conclusions,
- Welcomed the high percentage of women Members of the Parliament (45 %) but regretted the situation of LGBTQI+ minorities in Senegal and notably the existing Senegalese law penalising homosexuality,

- Expressed concerns over the role China is playing in the country.

The Minister

- Pointed out that the EU is the natural partner of Senegal, due to shared history and geographical proximity and welcomed the results of the EU-Africa summit (17-18 February 2022),
- Highlighted the immense need for funding in Africa, whose population is four times that of the EU and where everything is yet to be built, and called for more funding for Senegal,
- Explained that, in view of the needs, Senegal does not have diplomatic exclusivity for Europe and China has become an important actor on the continent,
- Emphasised that development takes precedence over the fight against climate change (600 million Africans do not have electricity), which was not caused by Africa but negatively impacts the continent; called on the EU to increase its funding to achieve a green development path (in particular for gas as a transition energy) and warned that, in the absence of such funding, other development paths would be chosen,
- Outlined the legislation, which enables Senegal to achieve good results concerning gender parity in decision-making public bodies,
- Rejected the concerns expressed over the situation of LGBTQI+ minorities, argued that laws reflect the current culture of a country, which should be respected, and pointed out that the fact that polygamy is forbidden in the EU could also be considered discriminatory from their point of view; insisted that LGBTQI+ are not repressed in the country, unless found doing acts forbidden by the law; therefore, confirmed that the government had currently no intention of abolishing the law penalising homosexuality.

The Secretary of State

- Thanked the Members for their presence, which follows the visit of the President of the Commission and shows the interest of the EU in the EU-Senegal partnership,
- Criticised the fact that the agencies chosen for implementing the EUTF programmes were European rather than Senegalese,
- Underlined that Senegal receives funds from its own citizens through remittances and called on the EU to reduce the transfer costs paid by the diaspora when sending money to their relatives in Senegal, arguing that a 9 % reduction would unlock USD 15 billion a year.



9. Meeting with the Général de Division, Haut Commandant de la Gendarmerie Nationale, Directeur de la Justice Militaire, Mr Moussa Fall

The General

- Detailed the current security context in Senegal, in particular how climate change, the economic situation and the socio-economic context of the country are leading to increasing migratory flows,
- Expressed concerns over the departure of French soldiers from Mali, which shares a border with Senegal; explained that traffickers, terrorists and criminals transit through that border area, which also suffers from illegal exploitation of gold mines; and stressed that Senegal does not have enough means to control these activities,
- Highlighted the positive results of the Groupe d'Action Rapide de Surveillance et Intervention au Sahel (GARSI) programme and called for the EU to finance a second phase of the programme to secure the South-Eastern border of Senegal,
- Explained the actions undertaken to ensure a better gender balance in the Gendarmerie Nationale (women have had the right to enrol since 2007), which in particular led to a rise in the proportion of women from 8 % in 2021 to 16 % at the moment of the meeting; added that the objective is to reach 24 % (the UN standard for participation in peacekeeping operations) by 2023.

The Members

- Shared the ambition to manage migratory movements in Senegal in a controlled and humane way; insisted that it is the responsibility of the EU to give young people hope and opportunities regarding their future in Senegal.

10. Visit of the Lionceau company, beneficiary of the EUTF-financed Investisseurs &



Partenaires Accélération au Sahel (IPAS) programme

The Members

- Were informed about the IPAS programme, with a budget of EUR 15.5 million financed by the EUTF, which supports start-ups in 13 countries in the Sahel region and offers them funding (between EUR 3 000 and 60 000 per start-up), technical assistance and the creation of business incubators,

- Were informed that, in Senegal, bank lending rates are between 9 and 15 %, while there is no production infrastructure available and companies have to build their own plants if they want to grow; therefore EU support in the form of zero-interest loans is key to financing start-ups,

- Congratulated the beneficiaries for their courage and commitment to creating opportunities in Senegal.



The Beneficiaries

- Highlighted how they decided to leave a stable situation in France to launch their own baby-food processing company, Le Lionceau, in Senegal, using their own savings, after realising that there was almost no local supply on the market (90 % of imported products, no Senegalese companies),
- Explained that they first benefitted from the EUTF-funded Meet Africa programme which financed feasibility studies, then from IPAS, which enabled them to grow from 5 employees to around twenty people, rent the production space and extend their offer to 15 products,
- Detailed their plans for the future, including the construction of a food-processing plant in the region of Thiès in order to increase their production capacity (only 50 % of the demand can currently be met), and the planned recruitment of 30 more workers by 2023,
- Insisted that helping vulnerable populations was a founding goal of the company, which cannot be reached yet due to its current lack of profitability, and the fact that it is currently technically impossible for the company to meet the FAO standards to unlock its financing.

11. Meeting with the President of the National Assembly, Mr Moustapha Niasse (joint with PECH)

The President

- Highlighted that the EU is the first partner of Senegal and has always supported the country in its development projects,
- Insisted on the importance of democracy for the House, which has never been disrupted since its establishment in 1960, is now in its 13th legislature and has 45 % women Members, and argued that in Senegal the rights of the opposition and the safety of journalists are preserved.

Members of the Senegalese Parliament

- Regretted the incident, which kept Members from the PECH Committee from accessing the port of Dakar and the tensions regarding the fisheries agreement between Senegal and the EU, due to the rising hostility of the population,
- Called on the EU to help fight illegal fishing practices which contribute to depleting resources and deforestation (as the local pirogue boats are made from wood),
- Highly appreciated the EUTF and its achievements.

The BUDG Members

- Welcomed the conclusions of the EU-Africa summit and called for continued collaboration between the EU and Senegal,
- Expressed concerns over genital mutilation practices affecting 25 % of women in the country.



12. Meeting with the Director of Financial and Economic Cooperation in the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Cooperation, Mr Mamour Ousmane Bâ

The Director

- Expressed his appreciation of the EUTF-financed programmes, in particular those aimed at giving employment opportunities to young people; added that the impact is real,
- Regretted that, in the decision-taking process of the EUTF, African countries were consulted through their ambassadors in Brussels, who answer to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, while it is the Ministries of Economy who would have to implement the programmes; acknowledged that the situation has changed with the NDICI,
- Underlined that investments in Senegal should be made along the lines of the *Plan Sénégal Emergent*³, which also frames the relationship with partners such as the EU,
- Explained that, with the support of UN-Women, gender mainstreaming in the budget is now a reality in Senegal, where “gender units” have been set up in all ministries and a gender reading of each policy proposal is undertaken.



The Members

- Encouraged the authorities to continue their efforts to strengthen the economic development rate of Senegal, fight poverty, ensure security and leave no one behind in the process.

³ <https://www.sec.gouv.sn/dossiers/plan-s%C3%A9n%C3%A9gal-emergent-pse>

13. Meeting with women led financial and civil society organisations - chaired by Robert Biedroń

The Members

- Held an exchange of views on Senegal's gender situation together with Thiaba Camara Sy, Chairwoman of the Board of WIC Capital, launched in 2019 by the Women's Investment Club Sénégal, Yaye Fatou Sarr, in charge of communication and public relations in the Social Change Factory, and Marie Odil Sylva, from the *Réseau des jeunes contre les mutilations génitales et le mariage précoce*,



- Recalled that the Commission adopted the Gender Action Plan III in 2020 and stands ready to support Senegal in defending women's rights,

- Expressed concerns over genital mutilation and child poverty rates in Senegal, as well as the situation of LGBTQI+ minorities.

The Speakers

- Warned that the Senegalese law on gender parity is in fact not respected as the recent municipal election results are beginning to show (the local authorities are mostly run by men) and that cases brought against the administrative enforcement authority are not yielding results; added that the Senegalese central government only has 8 women out of 30 ministers; nevertheless welcomed the fact that the National Assembly has 71 female Members out of 150 Members in total,

- Explained that, in order to prevent child marriages, genital mutilation, rape and child trafficking, mentalities and the law need to evolve, which is a slow process,

- Worried about the education rate of boys, which is decreasing while that of girls increases.

14. Debriefing with the EU Ambassador (joint with PECH)



The BUDG Members

- Pointed to the lessons learnt from the discussions with Ministers, beneficiaries, civil society organisations, and the visit of projects financed through the EUTF,
- Underlined the need to give opportunities to young people in the country, including through loans with better rates than those proposed in Senegal,
- Called for a better inclusion of human rights in EU financial cooperation with Senegal, as a pillar of the EU external action.

IV. List of Participants

BUDG Mission to Senegal Dakar, Senegal

21-25 February 2022

MEPs BUDG	Group	Country
Margarida Marques (Head of the delegation)	S&D	Portugal
Jose Manuel Fernandes	EPP	Portugal
Robert Biedroń	S&D	Poland
Rasmus Andresen	Greens/EFA	Germany
Bogdan Rzońca	ECR	Poland

Secretariat staff		
Alice Rouquette	Administrator	BUDG Secretariat
Kris Piot	Assistant	BUDG Secretariat

Political Group staff	Group
Yoann Moisan	S&D
Kamila Wrzesinska	ECR

Interpreters	Language unit
Gérard Hendrickx	French
Anna Karolina Skowron	French
William Kiely	English
Michel Bower	English

Abbreviations of the political groups:

EPP Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) in the European Parliament
S&D Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats in the European Parliament
ECR Group of the European Conservatives and Reformists
BUDG Committee on Budgets