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Senegal historically had active labour migration flows regionally and towards Europe. Currently, despite several pilot Government to Government schemes, labour migration is often viewed as an individual decision and is not highly regulated by the government. In recent years questions related to labour migration and recruitment have often been overshadowed by discourses on stopping trafficking and irregular migration.

### Legal Framework

- Senegal lacks specific labour migration legislation.
- A 'National Migration Policy' has been in draft form since 2015. Its current status is unclear.
- A 'National Strategy to Fight Against Irregular Migration' (SNLMI) was validated in 2023.

### Recruitment

- Private Recruitment Agencies for foreign employment are not regulated.
- Most recruitment happens through informal channels and at the individual level.
- Unethical recruitment can only be punished if it falls under anti-trafficking laws.

### Pre-departure training

- Not mandatory by the government.
- The government BAOS and ANPEJ offices provide information on legal migration procedures and aid in return and reintegration.
- Senegal and international partners support projects focused on "Succeeding in Senegal".

### Exit controls

- Exit controls, when in place, are related to stopping irregular migration flows.
- This includes additional visa checks at the airport, land borders, and sea patrols.

### Destination Country Protections

- The Senegalese diaspora has elected representation and actively votes in elections.
- Policy focus on increasing diaspora investments.
- Embassies sometimes lack resources to support migrants, this gap is often filled by diaspora associations.

### Bans on Migrant Worker Mobility

- Senegal has not historically used bans as a negotiation tool in BLA negotiations.

The Senegalese labour migration sector is still developing and lacks regulatory instruments. Although remittance income is important in Senegal, the government is also heavily reliant on foreign funding. Thus fighting against irregular migration often overshadows labour migration management in Senegalese discourse. Senegal instead focuses on overcoming unemployment challenges through creation of domestic jobs and leveraging the established diaspora's investment potential.

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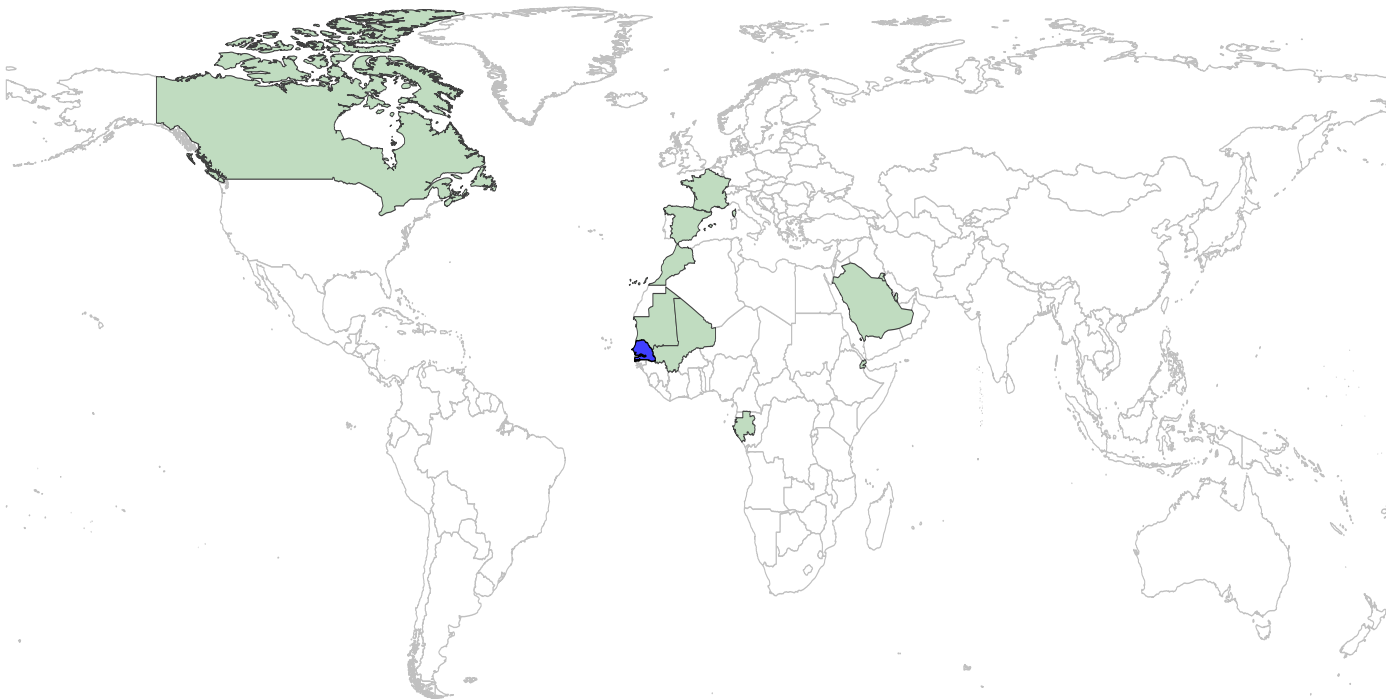
## Senegal Bilateral Labour Agreements

Our database records a total of 13 Bilateral Labour Agreements or Memorandum of Understanding between Senegal and 11 destination countries (alphabetical order):

Canada (2003), Djibouti (1972), France (2001, 2006), Gabon (1982), Kuwait (1992), Mali (1965), Mauritania (1972), Morocco (1964), Qatar (2010), Saudi Arabia (1988), Spain (2007, 2022).

The above list includes both valid and expired agreements.

Figure 1 Map of Senegal (● blue) and destination countries with BLA (○ green)



The above information derived from the [RIGHTS policy database v6.0](#). For a more comprehensive overview of emigration policies in 50 origin countries in the database, see Ersanilli, E (2024) [Origin countries' policies on low-waged migrant workers. Results from the RIGHTS policy database](#).