

Senegal Independence Day Special

Long-term plan aims for national prosperity

JEAN ANTOINE DIOUF
AMBASSADOR OF SENEGAL



Today, the Republic of Senegal celebrates its 65th independence anniversary. This year's celebration in Japan is significant because it sets the tone for an eventful period.

With Senegal and Japan celebrating 65 years of diplomatic relations and 45 years of Japan International Cooperation Agency volunteers in Senegal, the 2025 World Expo in Osaka and the ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development in August are expected to be landmark events.

As we reflect on the journey of this beacon of democracy in Africa, renowned for its political stability, it's also important to consider the country's future. Senegal has recently joined the ranks of oil and natural gas producers, marking a new chapter

that will inevitably transform the nation. Energy autonomy will have a ripple effect on the government's systemic economic transformation goals.

With one of the fastest-growing economies in Africa for over a decade, Senegal aims to sustain this momentum under His Excellency Bassirou Diomaye Diakharr Faye, the youngest elected president on the continent. The country aims to achieve this through the bold and ambitious Senegal 2050: National Transformation Agenda.

Senegal 2050 outlines a long-term development strategy designed to position the country as a sovereign, just and prosperous nation through four key pillars. These are good governance and stronger commitment to African integration; spatial planning and sustainable development; human capital and social equity; and a competitive economy.

At the bilateral level, the relationship between Senegal and Japan, rooted in mutual respect and shared values, translates into dynamic and multifaceted cooperation in various sectors, such as infrastructure, health, education, industry,

water and sanitation, and agriculture and fisheries. Japan's expertise in technology and innovation has notably contributed to Senegal's industrial development through the Centre de Formation Professionnelle et Technique Senegal-Japon, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in October 2024 in the presence of Prime Minister Ousmane Sonko and JICA President Akihiko Tanaka.

This year, the Senegal-Japan partnership will reach new heights at TICAD 9 in Yokohama as Senegal strengthens its position within this multilateral forum, which has already yielded tangible results. Moving forward, both countries will continue to deepen their ties through TICAD by enhancing trade, investment and technological exchanges in a people-centered approach guided by the principles of solidarity and ownership. In the same vein, Senegal's government trade and investment agencies, innovative startups and young entrepreneurs will lead the country's participation at the Osaka Expo.

In conclusion, I humbly invite the Japanese people and tourists from around the world to visit our pavilion. Aug. 25 will be

Senegal's national day at the expo, marking the climax of our participation, during which Senegal 2050 and its flagship projects, as well as investment opportunities and cultural treasures, will be showcased to Japanese and global partners.

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.



President Bassirou Diomaye Diakharr Faye
EMBASSY OF SENEGAL



The Saloum Islands boast rich biodiversity, including mangroves.
EMBASSY OF SENEGAL

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to the People of the Republic of Senegal
on the Anniversary of Their Independence



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