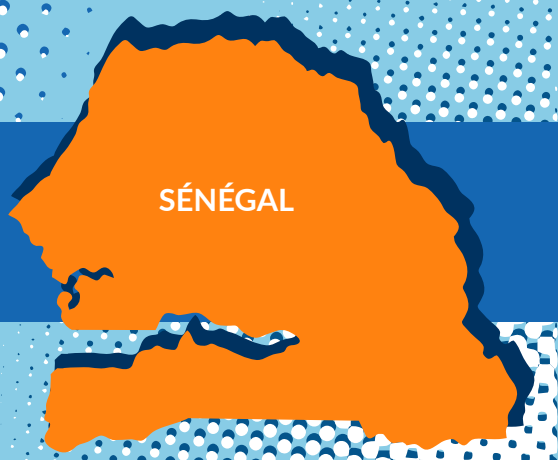
From the People of Japan

Supporting Community-Based Reintegration in the Casamance Region in Sénégal



- **Project Duration:** March 2025 - March 2026
- **Partnerships:** National Center for Mine Action of Sénégal (CNAMS), Communes of Boutoupa, Camaracounda, and Oulampagn
- **Budget:** $390,000

Casamance, a region of southern Sénégal rich in agricultural, pastoral, fishery, and forestry resources, faces major challenges including alarming poverty rates (51.1% in Ziguinchor and 64.4% in Sédhiou) and the aftermath of a long-standing armed conflict.

The presence of landmines in nearly 3 million square meters of land limits access to resources, hinders mobility, and slows socio-economic development, resulting in a food insecurity rate of 45% in certain areas. This project focuses on supporting demining efforts in Casamance and aims to facilitate the return and reintegration of displaced persons, including former combatants, in newly cleared areas.

By strengthening the technical and operational capacities of the National Center for Mine Action of Sénégal (CNAMS), the project will also contribute to peacebuilding by encouraging social dialogue, cohesion, and socio-economic reintegration in 15 villages whose residents have recently returned home. This project will be implemented in support of the new presidential plan for the development of Casamance, the "*Plan Diomaye for Casamance*," and the efforts initiated by the National Agency for the Development of Casamance (ANRAC).

OBJECTIVES

This project aims to strengthen demining efforts, support peacebuilding dialogues, and facilitate socio-economic reintegration in 15 villages in the region by:

- Strengthening the technical and operational capabilities of CNAMS by providing vehicles, software, and essential field equipment for monitoring and supervising demining activities
- Encouraging the formation of 15 agricultural cooperatives through collaboration with ANRAC to provide members access to land for rice cultivation and the development of complementary agricultural activities
- Supporting community organizations, civil society, and youth associations in organizing community dialogues and providing training on conflict prevention and management

OUTPUTS

- Strengthened operation and technical capcacities of CNAMS for more effective demining of land contaminated by explosives
- Creation of sustainable opportunities to promote the reintegration, economic empowerment, and social cohesion of returning individuals, including former combatants
- Enhancement of overall impact on peace and long-term stability in Casamance through addressing the root causes of conflict and enabling former combatants to become positive actors in sustainable development in the region

CONTRIBUTION TO SDGs