

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Development planner & Demographer, with 35 years of substantial experience working with Governments and the United Nations, including 16 years in Senior leadership positions as Assistant Secretary General (ASG), Deputy Special Representative of the SG, Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator, Designated Official for Security & UNDP Resident Representative assignments.

I have a track record of successful engagement and achievements managing programs across peace, humanitarian and development streams, with a sound knowledge of development tools, economic recovery and livelihood support programs, strong partnership-building skills, solid political acumen and ability to confidently engage with national and international counterparts in complex political and security environments.

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

March 2021 to March 2023: Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations (ASG), Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General with the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC) and Humanitarian Coordinator (HC for Sudan).

In June 2020, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2524 establishing a special political mission- to provide support to Sudan during its political transition to democratic rule. UNITAMS top leadership was formed with a Special Representative of the SG (SRSG) and a Deputy Special Representative (DSRSG). On 18 February 2021, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. António Guterres appointed me as his Deputy Special Representative for UNITAMS, to also serve as the United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC) and Humanitarian Coordinator (HC).

Within his delegated authority of the Secretary General and as the unique DSRSG for UNITAMS, I was responsible for assisting the SRSG in the overall management of the Mission and implementation of its mandate, but also as RC/HC and HC, provide leadership, strategic direction to one of the largest UN country presence and humanitarian operation, and ensure effective delivery of results on the ground. Specifically, I was responsible for: i) ensuring strategic coherence and consistent engagement between the activities of the UNCT and the objectives of UNITAMS's mandate; ii) leading UN integration and transition planning processes; iii) fostering a culture of collaboration and integration between the UNCT and the Mission; iv) serving as a conduit for communication between the Mission's senior leadership and the 34 UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes; v) directly overseeing the work of substantive components of the Mission and UNCT, including peace building, Human rights/protection of civilians/rule of law; electoral assistance; support mobilization of economic and development assistance and coordination of humanitarian assistance.

I also performed the Officer-in-Charge function of the Mission and Designated Official in the absence of the SRSG.

Notwithstanding the drastic change in the country context during my two years tenure, the UN system has continued to deliver on its mandate. Prior to the military takeover, I have endeavoured to re-establish a strong partnership with the transitional government. The long overdue UNDAF Result Reports for 2018, 2019&2020 was finalised and shared with the government. The common country assessment - a process that included a national stakeholder mapping exercise and consultations with key partners at the national and state levels, including transitional Government, civil society organizations, women's groups, youth groups and groups of marginalized and vulnerable persons - had been finalized in 2021. Consultations on the development of the integrated UN-Sudan transition plan have started with an all Heads of Agencies, funds and Programmes.

Further, despite the pausing of international development assistance, UNITAMS and the UNCT have continued mobilizing resources and providing support to lifesaving and - sustaining activities while strengthening resilience services across the country, where possible. Efforts have been continuing to promote the protection of civilians and identify ways to support and accelerate the implementation of the National Plan for the Protection of Civilians (NPPC).

The UN system under my leadership has continued to ensure a joint approach to deliverables of UNITAMS and the UNCT. Both have continued to deepen their collaboration through integrated coordination mechanisms and structures. In the meantime, domestic, regional, and international efforts aimed at facilitating a political solution to restore a civilian-led democratic transition, culminated in the signing of the Political Framework Agreement, on 5 December 2022. This milestone has been largely welcomed by the international community, particularly the tripartite mechanism (African Union (AU), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the UN) and development partners.

I greatly contributed to the establishment of the Sudan Partnership Forum in September 2021, a key achievement that brought together the Government and its international partners, outlined an agreed coordination structure chaired at the highest level by the Prime Minister and was supposed to mark Sudan's return to the international stage after 30 years of isolation and shape the future Aid Coordination architecture.

Considering the protracted nature of the humanitarian crisis in Sudan, and the need to start looking at ways to reduce the humanitarian caseload overtime, especially on children and women, I strongly advocated : i) in one hand for the inclusion of a resilience chapter in the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan to reduce the recurrent shocks; ii) in the other hand, for the urgent need to find political solutions to the prevailing situation, because only a political solution can curtail the worsening humanitarian situation across Sudan. However, until the political landscape changes, the international community needs to bolster support for the humanitarian-related response, to avert a rapid deterioration of the situation and alleviate suffering. Reason why with the humanitarian country team, I deployed multiple resources mobilization strategies to enhance the magnitude and impact of the response.

March 2020 to December 2020: UN resident Coordinator, Humanitarian and DO ai in Niger

I was deployed as RC/HC/DO ai in a context of management change in the UN Niger leadership and elections in the country. I supported the Government, the UNCT and the humanitarian country team in the preparation of local and general elections, supposed to give rise to the first democratic transfer of power from a president democratically elected to another, manage a complex humanitarian situation aggravated by Covid 19, end secure UN Staff and premises in an increasingly volatile security situation with Boko haram attacks at the Nigerian boarder and NSAG in the Mali and Burkina faso boarders. To foster increased dialogue between the Government and development partners, I supported the creation of a joint Government /development high level platform of dialogue that meets monthly under the presidency of the Prime Minister.

January 2019 to May 2019: UNDP Resident Representative ai in Nigeria

I assisted UNDP in performing the Resident Representative function in Nigeria. My mission as Resident Representative a.i was envisaged in the context of the UN reform with the delinking between the RC and UNDP Representative functions effective January 2019, a significant institution change and management transition in UNDP Nigeria CO and the General Elections in Nigeria, Africa's largest democracy with over 84 Million registered voters was scheduled to go to the polls on the February 16 and 23 for the Presidential and Gubernatorial elections respectively.

June 2011 to May 31 2018: UN Resident Coordinator, Designated Officer and UNDP Resident Representative in Togo

As the leader of the leader of the UN system coordinating the work of 13 agencies, I provided strategic direction, guidance and leadership in aligning UN interventions in full support of the national priorities, aiming at promoting sustainable human development, fostering peace and reconciliation. Successful initiatives supporting inclusive growth, strengthening democratic governance and electoral processes, promoting trustworthy institutions and administration reform, enhancing human rights and rule of law were implemented in close collaboration with national actors and in partnership with various stakeholders and donors.

In a context of high political instability inherited from 15 years of political crisis and increased tensions around the legislative elections, I spearheaded UN efforts in helping the parties to come to practical agreements on the conditions for inclusive and violence free elections at the peak of electoral periods from 2013 to 2015, working closely with the UNCT, UNOWAS, DPA and other relevant bodies. These efforts covered a wide range of concrete initiatives aiming at supporting: i) the transitional justice process led by The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Committee to address 47 years of human rights violations and electoral violence that has been very slow since its inception in 2009; ii) national dialogue and reconciliation specially capacity development for local mediation, electoral assistance, significant empowerment of NGOs, media, youth and women

in early warning, public awareness; iii) training on electoral administration for political parties and civil society; iv) promotion of democratic governance and peace consolidation.

Significant results were achieved in repositioning UN electoral assistance and conflict prevention and Governance capacities to support peace and inclusive participation in the 2013 legislative and 2015 presidential elections. Among others:

- Training of 8000 security agents of the election security force (FOSEP) ahead of the 2015 presidential election. This joint effort of UNDP, OHCHR, and UNREC in collaboration with, ICRC, and Hans Heindel Foundation, was undoubtedly impactful on the peaceful and violence free environment observed before, during and after the 2015 election.
- Enhanced institutional support to the Ministry in charge of territorial administration with the sensitization and training of all prefects and chairs of local councils, all 387 Chefs de Canton (traditional chiefs) on their role and responsibility in electoral processes, issues related to democracy and rule of law, neutrality, impartiality, prevention/management of conflicts, and human rights.
- 10 umbrella CSOs including women, youth and faith-based organizations received unparalleled support to carry out civic education, awareness campaigns for the prevention of conflicts, the setup of early warning activities throughout the country.
- A media platform was set up for the work of journalists supporting the ruling party and the opposition during the election period and capacitated. This initiative reduced the bipolarization and for the first time, a nationwide information system facilitated the collection, processing and dissemination of information accessible to all media professionals and the public.

To sustain these efforts and address in a longer perspective the roots causes and impacts of the long outstanding crisis, I stimulated an innovative approach aiming at anchoring conflict prevention and peace consolidation as a full pillar in the 2014-2018 UNDAF. Significant results were achieved in, among others: i) enhancing the capacities of the UNCT with the appointment of a Peace and development advisor funded through the joint UND/DPA project; ii) setting up a peace infrastructure project that has contributed to expanding national capacities on local mediation, trust building, conflict prevention for several government institutions alongside with civil society organizations, medias, religious and traditional leaders. In 2016, 36 local peace committees have been created at the prefectural level and their members trained, thus building a critical mass of capacities in support to the country's move toward the peaceful management of its sensitive political agenda.

Under my leadership, the Government entrusted the UN through UNDP with the mission to formulate and implement the Emergency Community development Programme (PUDC 2016-2018), a USD 266 Million project, funded mainly through national budget and aiming at reducing significantly poverty and inequalities, with a clear target on disadvantaged areas throughout the 5 regions.

I also succeeded positioning the UN as the leader of the Togo Development Partners Coordination Group which I chaired from 2013 to 2018 and played a pivotal role in the establishment and effective functioning of the "Groupe of 5" Head of missions (US, France, Germany, EU and UN) supporting the national political dialogue.

August 2007 to June 2011 UN Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator, Designated Officer for security and UNDP Resident Representative in Niger

I led UN assistance in a context of multifaceted crisis marked by: i) a deep political/institutional crisis, which culminated in a military coup in 2010 and the subsequent political transition period aggravated by; ii) an unprecedented food/nutrition crisis hitting more than 7.8 million people; iii) a significant deterioration of the security situation with the resurgence of rebels movement and emerging terrorist threats; iv) a continuous deterioration of all human development indicators, the country ranking last on the Human Development Index.

I spearheaded and coordinated UN efforts in support to Niger's political transition and regime change from a military to a civilian one, fostering close collaboration with other donors (EU, WB, IMF, bilateral cooperation agencies) and regional institutions (ECOWAS, AU), ensuring civil society, women and youth participation in addressing the multifaceted crisis and the peaceful return of Niger to constitutional order.

During the crucial 2010 political transition following the fourth military coup in the history of the country, most of International/donor support was channelled through the UN. Guided by the Policy Committee decisions and in close coordination with UNOWA, DPA, EAD and other UN bodies, I led international efforts that successfully: i) advised the de facto authorities on the management of the transition, provided technical expertise to the transition organs, namely the Supreme Council for the Restoration of Democracy (CSR), Transitional Government, National Consultative Council, Constitutional Transition Council, National Observatory of Communication, Observatory of

Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in the implementation of the agreed road map to end the transition. I played a central role mobilising donor support for the preparation and organization of six (6) electoral processes, namely, one referendum on the new constitution, one communal and regional election, one legislative election, two rounds of presidential elections, all within the one year transition period, worked closely with the ad hoc national electoral body, the de facto authorities and institutions involved in the elections, ensured the availability of accurate and timely information to all actors and oversaw the transparent management of the basket fund and monitoring of implementation of the road map.

Thanks to this electoral assistance and its effective delivery through a multi-donor basket fund combined with UN/ECOWAS good offices, the AU, EU and other donors political support in the other hand, Niger succeeded in organizing an unprecedented series of 6 free and fair elections within the one year transition timeframe that ensured a peaceful return to democracy, set up legitimate parliamentary, judiciary and local government institutions, a peaceful transfer of power to a democratically elected President in March 2011.

Addressing the widespread food/nutrition crisis was of utmost priority, I delivered on my Humanitarian mandate. With the support of OCHA and the humanitarian community, leading the advocacy fund raising campaign reaching a high target goal of USD 187,041,759 and coordinating the Emergency Humanitarian Action Plan to support the national response plan.

Ahead of the unfold of the humanitarian and security crisis in the country, I initiated and launched in 2008 the first ever humanitarian air service in Niger that improved significantly access to the most vulnerable/affected population and, has become over the years an essential link to support the action of the humanitarian community.

The development challenges deserved equal attention. I led the UN country team in developing implementing the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2009-2013 bringing together 21 agencies in support to the national priorities. The successful donor round table on the Niger five-year National Development Strategy organised in Brussels with the joint UN/UNDP/ EU support is one of my main achievements as Co-Chair of the preparation committee.

Responding to the increased security threats, I worked at enhancing significantly the security compliance for UN staff and locations in Niamey the capital city, Agadez, Maradi, and all other relevant locations.

I received written appreciation for my role in the management of the abduction case of a Senior UN official in 2009, providing appropriate support, coordination and permanent liaison with UNDSS and all parties involved until the happy release of the 3 hostages. The Government awarded me the high distinction of Commandeur de L'Ordre du Merite du Niger at the end of my tenure in Niger.

February 2001 to October 2006

General Manager of the Social Development Fund (AFDS), Joint funding Government of Senegal and World Bank

I was responsible for the strategic direction and management of the (AFDS), a nationwide community driven, goal-oriented and result-driven national agency, with 100 Million USD funding to spearhead and implement Senegal national poverty reduction strategy. Under my leadership, AFDS earned a high World Bank's performance rating for the quality of its management and achievements evidenced by 10 joint reviews and 6 independent audit missions.

Specifically, I:

- Implemented the strategic vision of the Agency positioning AFDS as the primary partner of the government in the implementation of the DSRP1 within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Strengthened government and World Bank cooperation by establishing two funding agreements with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Social Development, enabling the set up of the national implementing Units of the Senegalese's DSRP, the effective delivery of their action plan 2001 – 2005, the financing of the seminal national poverty survey ESAM 2 and constitution on a solid poverty data base across the country.

- Negotiated and secured 35 US \$ millions funding for AFDS (2001-2006) from the World Bank, the Japanese government and the national budget; oversaw the timely and, effective management and budget planning; ensured liaison and timely institutional reporting and accountability.

AFDS is recorded as one of the most successful WB/Senegal development programs and resulted in: a) an improved access to basic infrastructures and social services for the poor; b) extended and diversified access to economic activities and microfinance services, resulting in the set up of 15 microfinance institutions and 24 new micro-credit service provision sites in underserved regions; c) enhanced capacities of local communities and institutions through targeted and efficient training of 3000 local specialists in participatory planning, budgeting; community procurement; and participatory monitoring; d) the establishment of a national poverty monitoring system to facilitate the piloting, mapping and monitoring of poverty trends, including village-level poverty tracking, and the millennium development goals piloting.

1259 projects implemented by local communities, improving access to economic and basic social services in 1032 villages and 12 municipalities. The program was extended in Casamance to accompany the post-conflict transition and reconstruction process.

July 1999 - December 2000

Senior Advisor, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Planning

As Senior Advisor of the Minister in charge of planning, I was responsible for stimulating and maintaining the dialogue with sectorial ministries and development partners in the areas of poverty reduction, human development and decentralization policy, ensuring their alignment to the national strategy. I succeeded in : i) maintaining a high quality of intersectoral dialogue ministries; ii) supporting resource mobilization of sectoral ministries to ensure sufficient funding for their programmes: ii) coordinated the formulation of the 2001 National Strategy for Poverty Alleviation; iii) organized consultations between the Government and local collectivities, iii) coordinated partnership with development partners and donors.

1991 - 1999

Executive Director of the Project “Promotion of Women Status” of the Human Resources Development Program (PDRHI), funded by the Government of Senegal and World Bank

Responsible for the project and management of a 7 million USD World Bank grant: i) supported the empowerment of 223 women’s organizations through the construction and equipment of 30 women centers, funding of 50 income generating projects, access to technology, and capacity building; ii) advocated successfully for gender mainstreaming in national planning policies and budget and the government’s commitment to gender equality and women’s rights conforming to the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW. iii) lead the technical team of the African regional preparatory conference for Beijing hosted by Senegal and the national expert group at the Beijing conference.

1990 - 1991

Senior Advisor, Minister of Women and Children’s Affairs

Provided technical expertise and strategic guidance to the implementation of nationwide social welfare programs for women, children and the elders, interfaced with donor agencies and development partners, and negotiated programs’ funding, budgeting and buy-in.

1988 - 1990

National Director for Family and Women’s Rights, Ministry of Social Development

Responsible for the coordination and implementation of the national Population Policy Declaration for the advancement of women and the protection of children and the elderly: i) launched a National Family Planning Program involving all social actors (including religious leaders); conducted a participatory assessment of the first Women’s Action Plan; piloted and supervised the prospective research “Senegalese women in the years 2015”; ii) led the successful design and negotiation of 2 major projects funded by the World Bank “Promotion of Women’s Status” and the African Development Bank (ADB) “Support to Women’s Organizations Project”; iii) managed a network of over 300 national and field level personnel.

1987 - 1988

Chief of the Population Surveys and Policy Division, Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation

I led the effective elaboration of the first Senegalese Population Declaration Policy, under the leadership and strategic guidance of the Minister of planning. I : i) guided and coordinated the work of several stakeholders groups (technical experts, religious leaders, women and youth groups) all involved in the formulation process; ii) developed advocacy strategies and tools for the integration of demographic issues in development policies and planning. The National Population Policy Declaration was adopted by the Government as one of the main post structural adjustment initiative aiming at fostering social policies, mobilized the committed support of international organizations (UNFPA, USAID, UNICEF, The World Bank) in the implementation of the Action Plan which resulted in the strengthening institutional and technical capacities of the ministry and other stakeholders.

1980 –1985

**National Expert in the “Population and Regional Planning Project”
UNFPA/UNDP/USAID, Ministry of Urban and Regional Planning**

I provided technical leadership and expertise in the project implementation resulting in the adoption of the Senegalese National Land Management and Regional Development Plan in support of the decentralization policy through appropriate and effective land use planning and natural resources management, and efficient integration of local and national economic development initiatives. I also initiated and launched research projects, series of diagnosis, prospective studies and surveys on demographic trends and socio-economic profile across the country.

Selected missions/consultancies

I provided consulting services to various international organizations for 20 years: International Consultant for UNFPA, UNDP, UNIFEM, IFAD from 1985 to 1999 leading missions in various areas; need assessment for Guinea Bissau, Cap Verde and Senegal; evaluation of the ONAPO and reproductive health systems in Rwanda in 1992 with USAID; iii) formulation of the five-year cooperation program of UNFPA in Ivory Coast and Cameroon in 1996 and 1997; 2) evaluation of the African Platform for Women for the ECA and preparation of and the Beijing + 5 ECA meeting in 1999; assistance for the establishment of a Population Unit in the Ministry of Planning of Guinea Bissau, 1985; assessment of the PAICV mechanism for the advancement of women and set-up of the National Institute for Women in Cape Verde, 1986; capacity building of the Local Development National Team of Benin and the Executive Secretariat of the HIV/Aid program in Mauritania in program management and operational capacity in procurement procedures, 2005 and 2006.

EDUCATION

Université Paris Sorbonne, France

1980	Post graduate degree (D.E.A.) in Land Management and Urban Planning
1979	Masters in Economic Geography (With Honors)
1978	BA in Geography

Institut de Démographie de Paris, France

1980	Diplôme de Démographie générale
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Classes Préparatoires aux Grandes Ecoles, France

1975 - 1978: Lycées Honoré de Balzac et Condorcet, Paris

Lycée Ameth Fall, Saint Louis, Sénégal

1974	Baccalauréat, (with honors)
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SELECTED TRAINING AND PPROFESIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- UN high level Mediation Course, New York, 2013 and Glion, Switzerland 2017
- UN Corporate trainings for Senior Leaders 2007 to 2022
- Leadership Development and Management Georgetown University, Edmond A. Walsh School of Foreign Service Washington, D.C., 2003
- Management and Organizational Development, Ecole Nationale d'Administration Publique, Québec, Canada, 1992

LANGUAGE

Language	Read			Write			Speak		
	Very Good	Good	Weak	Very Good	Good	Weak	Very Good	Good	Weak
Wolof (mother tongue)	x			x			x		
French	x			x			x		
English		x			x			x	
Spanish			x			x			x
