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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE WEBINAR**

### **Senegal Secondary School – Live Q&A with Leila Meroue**

December 2025

#### **Competition focus and expected level of detail**

- Competition priority: strong concepts and innovative ideas—especially for the roofing system—over an exhaustive technical development.
- Not required: a detailed cost breakdown, a specific soil stabilization formula, exact local tree/plant species for the orchard/landscaping, specific furniture selections, detailed programming for the multi-purpose space, or the exact plant fibers used by local artisans. These items belong to a later project development phase and can be refined on site.

#### **Roofing system**

- The roof must address thermal comfort, durability, low maintenance, and replicability.
- Zinc/metal roofs have caused issues due to overheating and the need for replacement/maintenance.
- Membrane/tarpaulin solutions provide good interior light, but require replacement; the goal is a more permanent alternative.
- Metal is not forbidden: it is acceptable if it is part of a replicable and thermally appropriate system.
- Using sheet metal as an intermediate waterproofing layer is viable if it is protected from direct solar radiation (by an upper layer).
- Roofing system explained with sections/axonometric diagrams: layers, solar protection, ventilation, and waterproofing.
- Replicability: construction method, local labor, logistics, maintenance, and repairs.
- Thermal comfort and durability: strategy to prevent overheating and reduce replacements.
- If proposing thatch/TIFA: slope and criteria consistent with the material (35°).
- Avoid costly solutions (earth/timber tiles) unless exceptionally well justified.



## **Mentioned roofing materials and techniques**

- Vegetal thatch roofing is viable if design conditions are met.
- TIFA is available; if used, the roof should work with a 35° slope.
- Avoid earth tiles and timber tiles: they significantly increase cost.
- Structural timber involves termite risk and durable timber is often imported; its use in critical elements should be minimized.

## **Relevant environmental conditions**

- Rainy season: July to October.
- Mosquitoes: higher presence from around 17:00; integrating “mosquito-proof” solutions is encouraged when possible.

## **Key program and dimensions**

- Standard classroom size: 7×9 m.
- Multi-purpose space: 7×9 m so it can become a classroom if needed (in addition to library/dining/other uses).

## **Relationship with the existing school**

- It is possible to physically separate primary and secondary with a wall, but it is not a requirement or a central focus of the competition.

## **School operating calendar**

- School year: October to June, with a break in December.
- Teaching activity happens mostly outside the rainy season (rainfall is concentrated between July and October).

