As part of its mission to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its Member States, the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) has supported the Republic of Senegal by developing hydraulic structures in the country’s rural areas to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation.

In a significant move in reforming the rural borehole management system in Senegal, EBID financed the installation of boreholes, the acquisition of water pumping equipment and the supply of technical materials and equipment. The Bank has joined forces with the Government of Senegal to ensure that rural households have an adequate and continuous supply of safe drinking water and an independent system for disposing excrement and household wastewater.

Millions of people in some 2,400 rural villages in Senegal are reaping the socio-economic benefits of this project. More than two million people living in rural areas currently benefit from a continuous supply of safe drinking water in quantity and quality thanks to EBID’s intervention.

The installation of 462 water pumping systems, the renewal of water pumping equipment at more than 490 sites and the acquisition of operational drainage equipment have had a crucial impact on rural populations. Communities are living healthier lives because of their access to clean and drinking water. Agriculture and livestock are thriving, which stimulates economic activities within and beyond the project areas.

One of EBID’s missions is to ensure the sustainability of the development projects it finances while transforming ECOWAS Communities into restored, enabled, and resilient communities. As such, a vital component of this project was the long-term management of the boreholes and appropriate maintenance of the equipment. The operations and management department of the project as well as other stakeholders received capacity-building training and six (6) drilling workshops were established to set up, revitalise and raise awareness among the associations of borehole users.

Additionally, the borehole management has been entrusted to private operators equipped with maintenance equipment. The acquisition of a drilling fleet of ten (10) handling crane trucks, six (6) servicing trucks, nine (9) 4x4 pick-up vehicles, and spare equipment will improve the operability of the maintenance team and considerably reduce their intervention times and maintenance costs for servicing the hydraulic and water management structures.

By improving the access and availability to clean water, the elixir of life and one of the most valuable natural resources, EBID is giving a renewed hope to rural populations in Senegal.
Watering Hope in the Lives of Millions in Senegal

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