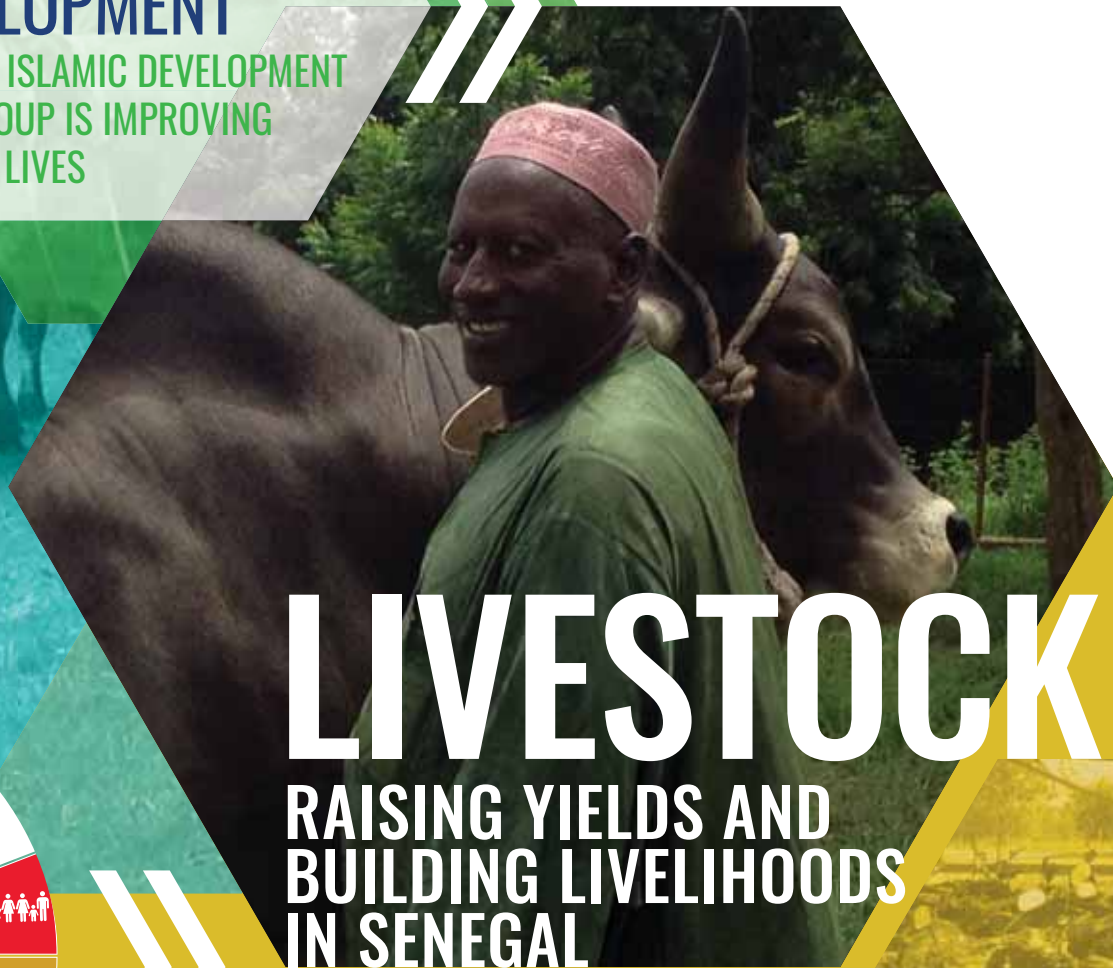


# CHANGE, IMPACT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

HOW THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT  
BANK GROUP IS IMPROVING  
PEOPLE'S LIVES

# LIVESTOCK

RAISING YIELDS AND  
BUILDING LIVELIHOODS  
IN SENEGAL



2020

# INTRODUCTION

Farming should not be considered as a means of survival, but as “a system or foundation for development,” believes Mamadou Niang, Director of Livestock in Senegal’s Ministry of Livestock and Animal Production, adding: “Productive livestock farming is not only about the health of the animals, but also depends on supportive infrastructure, equipment, forage and social systems.” This project adopted such a far-reaching ambition by taking a holistic approach to addressing the constraints affecting agro-pastoralists. It created significant impact: increasing the production of meat, milk and eggs, while simultaneously improving knowledge and social cohesion, enhancing the management of natural resources and creating employment.

# THE CHALLENGE

Most Senegalese farmers keep local-breed animals, which produce low yields of meat, milk and eggs. Animals are raised almost exclusively on natural pastures, with little supplemental feed, leading to low productivity. Thus, the country needs to import milk and meat, costing more than US\$1 billion a year – money that could otherwise be spent supporting local producers and building the economy. Additional constraints include lack of public investment and credit services; shortage of pasture, forage and watering points; and high disease levels. Bush fires and overgrazing around watering points have caused environmental degradation, impeding productivity gains and creating vulnerability.

In remote communities of Eastern Region and Upper Casamance Region,<sup>1</sup> increasing livestock productivity in pastoralist and agro-pastoralist systems is hindered by unreliable access to water. Dr Alioune Touré, Project Director, expands on this: “They have waited a long time for water. Senegal aims to be self-sufficient in sheep meat, but without water, you cannot develop.”



<sup>1</sup> There have recently been regional name changes in Senegal, but this document uses the names in place at the time of project implementation.

# THE PROJECT

This livestock development project aimed to improve food security and the incomes of agro-pastoralists by improving livestock productivity, developing markets for meat and dairy products, and introducing innovative grazing technologies for more sustainable environmental management.

Eight pastoral areas were established to coordinate activities around watering points, grazing management plans, animal health, and marketing. Improved breeding stock was introduced, and communities were trained in artificial insemination, with 30 public and private technicians being given these skills. Access to supplemental feed was also enhanced – for example, cowpea was introduced as a forage crop across 465 hectares.

Farmers were given access to finance through an Islamic micro-credit scheme administered by a local partner, with almost 200 micro-projects being funded on the intensification of meat, milk and egg production (with an 88% reimbursement rate).

Some 50 kilometers of firebreaks were constructed, and 420 village committees formed for fire control. The project supplied 24 motor mowers for cutting forage and creating firebreaks. A total of 46 new or rehabilitated boreholes and wells meant better water quality and availability for both livestock and people, and relieved pressure around the sites.

The increased access to water meant women saved considerable time having to fetch water and contributed to development of vegetable production around villages, providing revenue to women and improved family nutrition.

More accessible and affordable veterinary care was also provided with 35 veterinary posts newly built or brought back into service. To improve vaccination rates, 25 new vaccination hubs were established, and 969 villagers were trained as vaccination aids and 120 as livestock technician aides, and 38 motorcycles were provided for veterinary staff to get around.

# RESULTS

Livestock productivity has increased markedly, and this has enhanced food security, incomes and livelihoods in participant communities, with more than 1 million people benefiting directly or indirectly.

Production systems are now more efficient, with better animal health due to the availability of supplemental feed and more complete vaccination coverage – now reaching 80% of animals. Having dedicated infrastructure has improved the hygiene, processing and marketing of animal products, and this trend should be sustainable thanks to capacity building.

Natural resources are being managed more sustainably through the establishment of pastoral areas and grazing management plans. The participatory approach has built resilience, created ownership, and empowered communities to manage their resources while minimizing conflict.

The Islamic micro-credit system, funding nearly 200 micro-projects to improve production, has improved living conditions and incomes, thereby reducing rural–urban migration and vulnerability to climate change by diversifying livelihood opportunities.

## ISLAMIC MICROFINANCE FUNDED NEARLY

# 200

MICRO-PROJECTS ON INTENSIFICATION OF MEAT, MILK AND EGG PRODUCTION WITH AN 88% REIMBURSEMENT RATE





## LESSONS LEARNED

Establishing an Islamic finance model was important as it allowed adaptation to socio-cultural realities and ensured good repayment rates for the micro-credit schemes.

Engaging agro-pastoralist communities in the management of grazing land, inputs and infrastructure has created empowerment, built ownership and minimized conflict over natural resources. The Ministry of Livestock established a strong, experienced implementation team and collaborated well with other relevant Government departments and local communities. Community leaders and key producers were included in planning and implementation, as well as receiving training, to ensure buy-in and lay the foundations for sustainability over the longer term.

The success could be replicated in similar farming systems characterized by low productivity, poor infrastructure, environmental vulnerability, and lack of credit. Planning for a duration of at least five years is recommended to allow for building infrastructure, and for at least a second phase to consolidate achievements.

MORE THAN

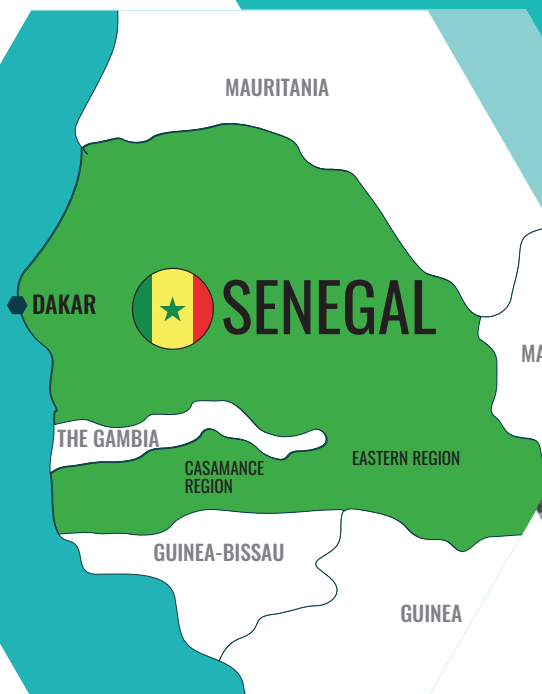
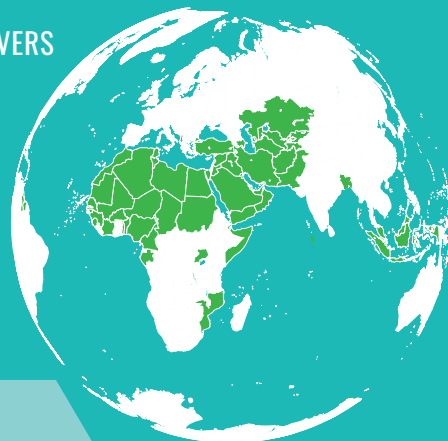
**1 MILLION**

PEOPLE HAVE ENHANCED FOOD SECURITY, INCOMES AND LIVELIHOODS, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FROM INCREASED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTIVITY

ISDB MEMBERSHIP COVERS

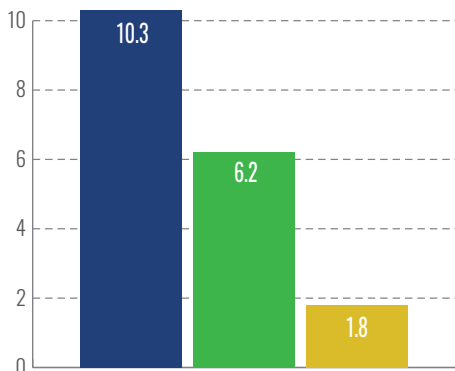
**57**

COUNTRIES SPREAD OVER 4 CONTINENTS



TOTAL PROJECT COST

**US\$ 18.3M**



### CONTRIBUTIONS

● ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK

**US\$ 10.3M**

● ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

**US\$ 6.2M**

● GOVERNMENT OF SENEGAL

**US\$ 1.8M**

**DISCLAIMER** THE MAP IS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

**"The project has particularly benefited women's health and incomes. Women in some villages have suffered miscarriages due to the toil of fetching water. Now they have potable water, they are more healthy and they can spend more time on productive activities, like market gardening, keeping poultry, selling milk and fattening sheep."**

Dr Alioune Touré, project director.

**"These community infrastructures will have a positive impact on the livestock sector. Beyond pastoralism, drilling wells and boreholes will improve peoples' daily experiences."**

Mamadou Niang, Director, Senegal Ministry of Livestock.



**LIVESTOCK IS KEY TO  
THE SENEGAL ECONOMY**

A TOTAL OF

**50km**

OF FIREBREAKS CONSTRUCTED

FIRE-CONTROL VILLAGE ACTION  
HAS ALSO BEEN ENABLED BY THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF

**420**

FIRE CONTROL COMMITTEES

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