

CHANGE, IMPACT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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



WATER

RURAL SUPPLY
IN KARA AND
SAVANES, TOGO



2020

INTRODUCTION

Water is vital for life, but people around the world lucky enough to enjoy unlimited and immediate access to safe drinking water quickly forget the benefits and how precious that access is. For this project in northern Togo, providing easier access to potable water for 170,000 people was life-changing. The situation improved particularly for young girls, who were able to return to full-time schooling when they did not have to spend so much time collecting water. There was also a great reduction in illnesses, and women could spend more time growing food, leading to broad, widespread and significant socioeconomic advantages.

THE CHALLENGE

The lack of easy access to safe, clean water is repeatedly highlighted as a major limitation to human development. As such, IsDB has focused a number of its investments and financial strategies on supporting Member Countries to achieve their aims of improving water access for populations, especially those in more remote rural areas.

The Government of Togo identified this issue as a high national priority when the project was formulated – at that point only half of the country's population had access to safe drinking water, with very uneven distribution in different areas. There was also a need to reduce infant mortality and improve overall health and quality of life, and to alleviate the constraints on people's time, energy and finances caused by lack of clean water. Shortages of water for livestock, and rural–urban migration because of lack of facilities, also needed addressing.



THE PROJECT

The goal of the project was to increase access to safe drinking water for over 120,000 people in rural populations in the Kara and Savanes regions of Togo, as well as raising total coverage from 51% to 55%. To achieve this, the project's activities included drilling 403 new boreholes and rehabilitating 100 existing boreholes, including installing new handpumps at all the sites.

There was a construction element to the project, too, to develop 9 mini-water supply systems. These had a total distribution network length of 35 kilometers and used 5 elevated water tanks. The total capacity achieved was 1,000 cubic meters. This network of mini-water supply systems supplied water to 96 new public standpipes and 53 private connections.

To oversee the new water supply, water management committees/associations were established for all 503 of the boreholes, plus the 9 mini-water supply systems. Some 50 artisans were also trained in mechanics and pump repair, and equipped with toolboxes. As well as providing employment, this supported the sustainability of the project as there were skilled and well-equipped people available to manage the mini-supply systems and to intervene when there was a breakdown or maintenance was needed.

This was the second of three major IsDB-financed water access projects in the country. The first targeted the center of the country, while this project focused on the two northern regions, and it was followed by a third project, in the Plateau and Maritime regions in the south of Togo. This indicates that the successes and lessons learned are transferable.

RESULTS

In total, 170,000 people benefited from facilities installed by this project, much higher than the project target of 128,300 set at appraisal. In the Kara Region, access to safe drinking water increased from 52% before the project's start, to 60% after project completion. In the Savanes Region the rate of access increased even more significantly in the same period, from 35% to 56%. And there will be long-term benefits due to more girls now being at school as they no longer need to spend long hours each day collecting water in the dry season, when many would abandon their classes to do so. Now that water points are nearer, almost equal numbers of girls and boys are seen in school.

KARA REGION: OVER THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT THE WATER ACCESS RATE INCREASED FROM

52% TO 60%

SAVANES REGION: THE ACCESS RATE INCREASED EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE SAME PERIOD FROM

35% TO 56%





LESSONS LEARNED

The project has improved access to water for a large number of people and is highly replicable.

Water infrastructure needs regular maintenance and repair, requiring financial management among water users to fund this. Larger water pumps and systems are powered by diesel generators that need fuel and extra management. For the long-term potential of the project investments to be realized, attention and investment are needed to build the capacities of new water users' associations in management, maintenance and repair, to ensure the sustainability of the infrastructure and its related positive impacts. It is also important that initial feasibility studies ensure a reliable source of water at installation points.

There is an opportunity for future projects to investigate the use of solar energy to reduce operating costs, and to involve private operators in the maintenance and operation of mini-water supply systems.



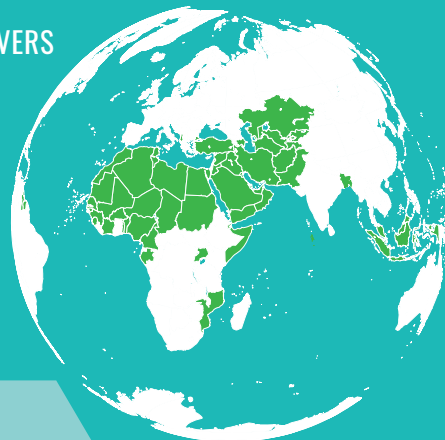
INCREASED ACCESS TO WATER FOR
170,000

PEOPLE IN THE ARID NORTH OF TOGO. THIS HAS BROUGHT MULTIPLE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS IN RURAL AREAS, IN HEALTH, FOOD PRODUCTION AND EDUCATION, ESPECIALLY FOR GIRLS

ISDB MEMBERSHIP COVERS

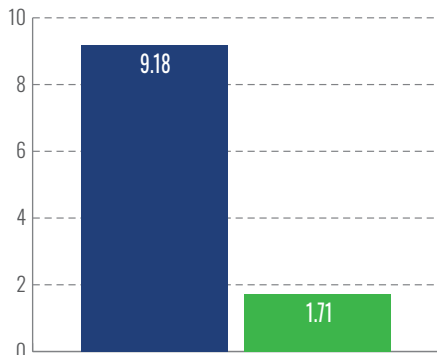
57

COUNTRIES SPREAD
OVER 4 CONTINENTS



TOTAL PROJECT COST

US\$ 10.89M



CONTRIBUTIONS

● ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK

US\$ 9.18M

● GOVERNMENT OF TOGO

US\$ 1.71M

DISCLAIMER THE MAP IS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

“Improved water supply has led to many socioeconomic benefits, and for diverse reasons. Less time spent fetching water means women now have more time in their fields, and food production has increased. And young girls go to school now, which is so much better. Also, there are now few illnesses, so less time inactive, more time working or studying, and less family cash spent on medicines and in hospitals. In Kara Region for example, bilharzia no longer exists since the project – and this is an exceptional benefit for the people there.”

Hatim Tchabore, Secretary General of the Ministry of Water, Hydraulic Engineering and Rural Water Supply (manager of the project when formerly Director of the Directorate of Rural Water Supply).



IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN THROUGH ACCESS TO POTABLE WATER IS A KEY BENEFIT OF THE PROJECT

A TOTAL OF

503

BOREHOLES ESTABLISHED. ACCESS TO CLOSER WATER POINTS MEANS THAT GIRLS CAN SPEND TIME AS SCHOOL INSTEAD OF FETCHING WATER

96

NEW PUBLIC STANDPIPES INSTALLED



CONTACT US

Islamic Development Bank
8111 King Khalid St.
Al Nuzlah Al Yamania Dist.
Unit No. 1
Jeddah 22332-2444
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

✉ info@isdb.org

☎ +966 12 6361400

🌐 www.isdb.org