

RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO CLIMATE-RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES IN THE SAHEL AND HORN OF AFRICA



A partnership programme between the African Water Facility, Denmark and the Nordic Development Fund (NDF)



MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK



African Water Facility
Facilité africaine de l'eau
Mobilising Resources for Water in Africa
Mobiliser des ressources pour l'eau en Afrique



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DEVELOPPEMENT

CONTEXT

The Sahel and Horn of Africa are among the most arid areas of the continent, whose development is limited by serious water scarcity. The region is characterized by strong climatic variability, irregular rainfall, and persistent drought.

The Programme's five countries, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger and Somalia, are among the world's poorest countries. About 44 % of their combined population of 258.5 million people population lives below the poverty line.

Access to safe, reliable, and affordable water and sanitation services is a fundamental human right and a critical element in assisting conflict-affected countries overcome the fragility trap and reduce sources of conflict. In addition, the provision of safe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services is crucial in protecting human health against infectious disease outbreaks, including COVID-19. However, the ongoing pandemic has had severe impacts on WASH services in Africa and is jeopardizing efforts towards sustainable development goals.

The programme will build the resilience of beneficiary communities to climate change, enhance the sustainability of the water systems through infrastructure and watershed measures, and contribute to increased financing for WASH services through the preparation of investment projects. Improving access to WASH services for households will enhance the quality of life through improvements in human health, child education, time savings and economic productivity.

ACCESS TO WASH IN THE TARGET COUNTRIES (Source: JMP, 2021)

MALI

	Urban		Rural	
	Population	%	Population	%
Water Supply	8,528,922	96	8,187,593	72
Sanitation	4,957,890	56	4,234,816	37
Hygiene	2,411,886	27	1,035,974	9
Open Defecation	967,446	9	32,165	0

The average annual rainfall for the country is 328 mm

BURKINA FASO

	Urban		Rural	
	Population	%	Population	%
Water Supply	5,123,534	80	4,745,918	33
Sanitation	2,576,305	40	1,952,259	13
Hygiene	1,091,668	17	791,502	5
Open Defecation	7,936,646	55	408,111	6

The average annual rainfall for the country is 748 mm

NIGER

	Urban		Rural	
	Population	%	Population	%
Water Supply	3,453,660	86	7,902,108	39
Sanitation	2,080,715	52	2,189,345	11
Hygiene	1,551,239	39	4,133,895	20
Open Defecation	16,025,776	79	460,441	11

The average annual rainfall for the country is 177.3 mm

SOMALIA

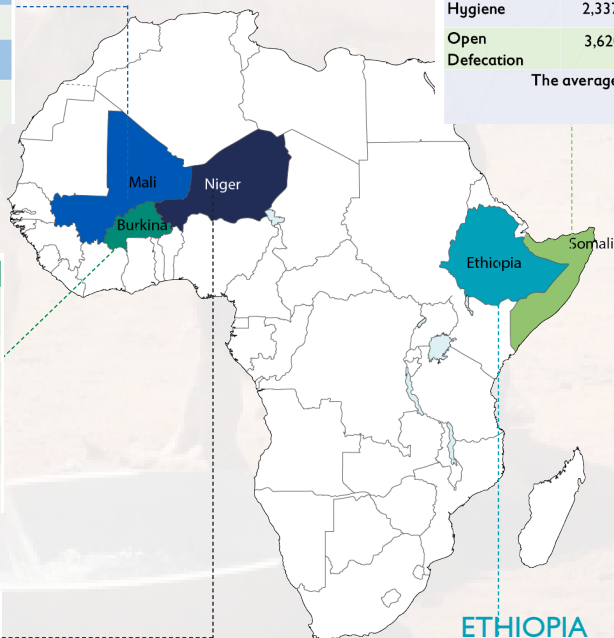
	Urban		Rural	
	Population	%	Population	%
Water Supply	5,802,342	79	3,173,668	37
Sanitation	4,135,214	56	2,111,873	25
Hygiene	2,337,419	32	1,627,217	19
Open Defecation	3,620,369	42	54,307	1

The average rainfall for the country is 282 mm.

ETHIOPIA

	Urban		Rural	
	Population	%	Population	%
Water Supply	21,003,817	84	36,036,025	40
Sanitation	5,334,175	21	4,909,400	5
Hygiene	5,051,918	20	4,343,702	5
Open Defecation	18,839,763	21	698,501	3

The average annual rainfall for the country is 815.8 mm



APPROACH

The programme will use a build-back-better and greener, climate-resilient approach to prepare investment projects and to support priority interventions in water supply, sanitation, hygiene and integrated water resource management.

The programme consists of three components:

1

PRIORITY COVID-19 RECOVERY WASH INTERVENTIONS

Rehabilitation, expansion and climate proofing of existing water supply systems, provision of public sanitation and handwashing facilities, and awareness-raising and public education on WASH.

2

CAPACITY AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT INVESTMENT PLANNING

Preparation of investment-ready climate resilient projects for WASH and integrated water resources management with focus on restoring degraded water catchments.

3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Institutional capacity building for climate-resilient and sustainable WASH services in the five target countries. Special focus on the application of a build-back-better and greener, climate-resilient approach in WASH investments

10

MAIN OUTCOMES

BANKABLE PROJECTS

ready for financing that will lead to improved water supply and sanitation services for 500,000 people.

10

IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION PROJECTS

implemented to provide improved access to WASH services for 300,000 people.

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENED

in all five countries, for enhanced climate vulnerability assessments and resilience building.

PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES

The programme specifically focuses on poor urban and rural communities that are vulnerable and/or displaced by insecurity, famine and climate/environmental disasters.

FINANCING

The total cost estimate for the programme is EUR 29.2 million with NDF contributing EUR 7.5 million as a grant, Denmark providing a grant of EUR 20.1 million, the AfDB/AWF providing a grant of EUR 1.0 million; and beneficiary governments making in-kind contributions of EUR 0.6 million.

ABOUT AFRICAN WATER FACILITY, DENMARK AND NORDIC DEVELOPMENT FUND



NORDIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Nordic Development Fund (NDF) is the joint Nordic international finance institution focusing on the nexus between climate change and development in lower-income countries and countries in fragile situations. Since the introduction of the climate mandate in 2009, NDF has built a track record of adding value by financing climate mitigation and adaptation projects in close interaction with its extensive network of strategic partners. NDF provides financing on concessionary terms in the form of grants, loans and equity. NDF engages in both the public and the private sector, and uses financial instruments flexibly, alone or in various combinations, to match the needs of the project.

DENMARK

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark has supported the water sector in Africa for decades both bilaterally and multilaterally. One of the two main pillars of the new Danish Strategy for Development Cooperation (2021) is to fight the climate crisis and reduce poverty and inequality in areas affected by insecurity or conflict. A key priority of the Strategy is climate change adaptation and environmental protection and specifically a stronger focus on providing safe WASH services to poor communities in Africa.

AFRICAN WATER FACILITY

The African Water Facility (AWF) is a Special Fund established in 2004, and hosted and managed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) at the request of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW). The AWF is a demand-driven, African-led project preparation facility that provides grants, mobilises investment financing, and offers expert technical assistance to support the preparation and implementation of innovative water and sanitation projects throughout Africa. The AWF contributes to meeting the African Water Vision 2025 as well as water-related Sustainable Development Goals.

OUR DONORS

The African Water Facility is financed by the following partners:

Regional Member Countries:

Algeria; Burkina Faso; Chad; Egypt; Nigeria and Senegal.

International Community:

African Development Bank, Australia; Austria; BMGF, Nordic Development Fund, Canada; Denmark; France; Germany; Norway; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; The Netherlands; UK

