SCALING UP RENEWABLE ENERGY IN SENEGAL

USAID SURE II

Strengthening the private sector in Senegal with grant funding and business support to promote inclusive economic growth and enhance livelihoods for women and youth.

Renewable energy powers economies. It does so by creating new jobs, stimulating entrepreneurial initiative and private investment, and increasing the professional opportunities and skills of the local workforce. Demonstrating pathways to reducing diesel dependence in rural areas can also give a boost to the promotion of an inclusive economic growth. Through the Scaling Up Renewable Energy (SURE) program, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is awarding grants of up to $250,000 to eligible for-profit companies whose businesses or products are powered by renewables. Experts will provide business support and coaching on skills such as business planning, accounting, financial controls, sales, after-sales service, and budgeting.

ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Supporting market-driven solutions powered by renewables, USAID will help the Government of Senegal and the private sector to promote inclusive economic growth, enhance livelihoods for women and youth, and help Senegal meet its goal of 10 percent emissions reduction by 2030.
APPROACH

USAID will provide grant funding and business support to companies in four areas.

MODERNIZATION OF PUMPING IN RURAL BOREHOLES

Diesel-powered water pumps have high fuel and maintenance costs as well as significant noise and air pollution. Manual pumps are physically demanding and often lack formalized organizational structures to maintain the pumps. USAID will support water and equipment providers to convert these with solar-powered water pumps, which will help lower costs and improve service quality and availability for customers.

YOUTH- AND WOMEN-LED ENTREPRENEURSHIP VIA PRODUCTIVE USE OF ENERGY

Approximately 70 percent of Senegal’s 16 million people are under the age of 30, many of whom are disconnected from economic opportunities. Furthermore, women have historically had few financial and employment opportunities. USAID will support solar-powered appliance businesses that benefit women- and youth-led entrepreneurs in parts of eastern and southern Senegal that do not yet have electricity from the power grid.

AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USES

Transitioning to solar-powered equipment can reduce electricity costs while boosting productivity and providing pathways to greater competitiveness for agribusinesses. USAID will support renewable energy developers as well as commercial and industrial agribusinesses that provide services to smallholder farmers and fishermen, such as in horticulture collection, storage, processing centers for peanuts or rice, and fisheries.

ENTERPRISE HUBS OF SOLAR-POWERED SERVICES

Community center models that power community and agricultural services have been proven to create jobs for rural youth and improve produce quality. USAID will support solar refrigeration companies and anchor customers working together to extend cold storage, agricultural best practices, and market linkages to nearby smallholder farmers.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Increased inclusive and sustainable economic growth.
- Increased incomes for targeted businesses.
- Increased professional opportunities and skills of the local workforce, particularly for youth and women.
- Improved resilience, nutrition, food and water security.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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ACTIVITY FAST FACTS
Activity Type: Contract
Budget: $4,000,000
Period of Performance: January 2022 to December 2024
Activity location: All, primarily rural
Implementing Partner: For-profit companies whose businesses or products are powered by renewables