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AfDB Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative  
October 2015

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## Editorial

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# The furthest behind first SDG 6 is absolutely necessary.

Across the African continent, an estimated 455 million people out of the 700 million living in rural areas still lack access to basic sanitation facilities. For RWSSI, SDG 6 is ambitious but absolutely necessary for development in Africa. In this edition you can find out more about RWSSI's "furthest behind first" strategy and the importance of joining forces with other development partners in order to gain in efficiency. Help us spread the word about RWSSI by sharing this newsletter with your colleagues and on social networks.  
*\*Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative, part of OWAS in the African Development Bank.*

## Exit from fragility



Meeting at the UN Summit in New York to adopt SDG, the AfDB President commended the UN Secretary General for his leadership in focusing attention to the states in fragility, and expressed the Bank's interest to continue the collaboration with the UN in ramping up ongoing support initiatives for Somalia\* and building resilience in the Sahel region. Ban Ki-moon invited President Adesina to join him in future visits to fragile countries.

*\*As part of a drive to support Somalia's exit from a fragile situation, a new €40-million rural water and sanitation program will be funded by the AfDB Transition Support Facility and a RWSSI Trust Fund grant.*

[More](#)

## Join us at the Innovative Financing event in December.



WASH sector staff of the AfDB and UNICEF met for a workshop on 23rd September 2015 at AfDB HQ in Abidjan, to discuss ways of leveraging their comparative advantages in supporting Continental and Regional WASH projects. The partners are co-organizing, together with the African Union and other stakeholders, the first regional meeting on innovative financing for WASH in Africa. The agenda will focus on how private sector and domestic financial resources can be mobilized to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all in Africa. Meet us at the event in Dakar from 15-17 December 2015.

[Event page](#)

## Notes from the field: RWSSI in Mali



This video, brought back from a field visit to two rural regions in Mali, gives us an insight into the impact of the RWSSI program from the perspective of local stakeholders. Hear the feedback from a village mayor, a local worker who was trained to build latrines, the ladies who earn a living by running the public latrines.

**Video in French.**

## Senegal, AfDB, AU and AMCOW talk to the press together.



21st September 2015.  
AfDB's Mahécor NDiaye with Senegalese Minister for water resources and sanitation, Mansour Faye.

On 28th September 2015, the AfDB issued a press release showcasing Senegal for sustainability in rural water and sanitation. The Senegalese Ministry for Water Resources and Sanitation, UNICEF, the AU and AMCOW all committed statements on their joint efforts to achieve the freshly announced SDGs. In Senegal, the Government links rural water and sanitation actions with community knowledge-building and development. Retrospectively, the investment over the last 10 years has been conclusive both in terms of buy-in and sustainability.

[Press release](#)

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African Development Bank  
Immeuble du Centre de Commerce International d'Abidjan CCIA

Avenue Jean-Paul II, Abidjan BP1387, Cote D'Ivoire