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In Ndiaye Kahone (Kaolack region), village inhabitants now use new technologies and the village youth surf the internet with their computers.

School results improve

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The quality of medical services improves

For the first time, each child at night can now be provided in much better conditions. The small health post in Ndiaye Kahone that benefits from access to electricity, Faama Diop, the midwife of the village, in very happy with her work, especially during the rainy season.

According to her, the quality of services has vastly improved: "I have a minimum of five patients a day. Thanks to electricity, I can even carry out nighttime visits, including for childbirth.”

The local economy is boosted

Thanks to solar mills, sewing workshops, carpentry and metalwork businesses, the communities are also witnessing a new boost in income-generating activities. In villages such as Ndiaye Kahone (Kaolack region) and Dioussé (Fatick region), electrical installations have allowed women to use solar freezers in which they can preserve fresh product for sale on the weekly markets. In Sine Massia (Thiès region), the village tailor multiplied his income by six since he began using the electricity generated by the wind-solar-diesel power plant.

From a health standpoint, a great improvement has been made in the conditions in which medical consultations are carried out.

The background

In 2010, over 80% of rural Senegalese households still had no access to electricity. In a great number of communities, schools and health posts deliver their services without any electricity. The Government of Senegal has therefore set itself the challenge of increasing access to electricity in rural areas to 50% in 2012. That requires delivering electricity to approximately 165,000 new households every year!

To reach this ambitious goal, the Senegalese Agency for Rural Electrification (ASER) is in charge of promoting electrification by providing support to local, national, and international initiatives. Its approach rests upon an electrification plan established by the Ministry in charge of Energy.

In support of local initiatives for electrification, PERACOD and ASER are implementing the ERSEN Project, which is financed by the Directorate-General for International Cooperation (Dutch cooperation). The ERSEN project uses renewable energy (solar and wind power) to provide electricity to remote areas that cannot be immediately or easily connected to the existing distribution grid.

ERSEN objectives

In its first phase (2005 – December 2009), the ERSEN project brought electricity to 74 villages in the regions of Kolda, Sédhiou and Kaolack. The second phase started in May 2009 and carries the objective of bringing electricity to a further 70 villages in the Fatick region, and 121 villages in the Sédhiou region, with co-financing of the European Union.

The 265 target villages of the ERSEN project have a maximum population of 1,000, are usually situated at a long distance from the medium voltage grid, and must dispose of at least one school and one health post to be eligible for investment.
Technical Solutions

In order to make electricity useful and accessible to all, different technical solutions are on offer, each with its own specific uses. These include:

- Solar home systems are usually installed in smaller villages with a population of less than 500. They can generate sufficient electricity to power four light points, a black and white TV, a radio, and a mobile phone charger.

- Solar street lights are provided to villages with a population of approximately 700 inhabitants. They can light the streets in villages, markets, and public places or other social facilities such as places of prayer.

- Diesel or solar-wind-diesel and solar-wind systems. Solar street lights are used for public lighting purposes such as street lighting pathways, public places or other social facilities such as places for prayer.

In the villages, ERSEN develops a social engineering system for rural electrification.

Social engineering implemented by the ERSEN project

Understanding the socio-economic context and the needs of the community is essential before electrification. The ERSEN project in the Kaolack region, the first village to be provided with electricity by the ERSEN project, illustrates the importance of social engineering. The chief was "dazzled" by the electrification of his village.

In Keur Madiouf, the first village to be provided with electricity by the ERSEN project in the Kaolack region, the son of the village chief was "dazzled" by the electrification of his village. After a first evening spent under the light provided by the new systems, he addressed his father as follows: "Dad, when I pressed the switch and the room was lit up, I thought I was staying at my uncle’s in Dakar! I never would have thought we would get light other than from our oil lamps. I will now be able to study properly here at home, unlike in Dakar!"

Important social changes

Electricity being brought to the village allows the population to diversify their economic activities. The electricity has brought new possibilities for agricultural activities. People can now practice similar activities.

Electricity as a means of creating wealth in rural areas

Downstream from electricity services, the development of productive uses is carried out using a four-step approach:

1. Systematic identification of potential productive uses of electricity during the preliminary survey stages.
2. Careful analysis of value-added chains of each identified activity and of the economic and financial viability of investing into productive uses.
3. Identification and development of synergies with financial and non-financial partners (business development services).
4. Integration of these productive uses into designs for electricity supply.

Impacts

 trưng bày ảnh một trang của tài liệu, cùng với nội dung được rút gọn được trích xuất trước đó. 

Private microgrid companies selected by ASER are responsible for operating the systems in target villages. The project ensures that an adequate social structure is put in place to help manage electricity provision.

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In conclusion, electricity provides a multitude of opportunities for economic development in villages. The ERSEN project therefore provides a support to the development of productive uses of electricity for rural entrepreneurs. Electricity as a means of creating wealth in rural area

Electricity consumers, whether they are households, social facilities or productive users, must pay their access through an initial one-off access fee and monthly fees for the service.

In the villages, ERSEN develops a social engineering system for rural electricity provision. This consists in integrating preliminary information, awareness raising, training of target groups and closely associating the local communities in decision-making.

The ERSEN project has developed several innovations concerning the social aspects of rural electrification. The project ensures that an adequate social structure is put in place to help manage electricity provision. A consultation and decision-making forum is thus set up at village level in order to mitigate social impacts and risks. This is embodied by the ‘Monitoring and oversight committees for electricity service delivery’. This careful integration into the socio-economic context favours the durability of equipment on one hand, and facilitates private sector investment and operations on the other hand. The key stakeholders are therefore solicited by the project in different manners:

- Rural communities must position themselves as primary beneficiaries of the services provided by the private operators.
- Private operators are also required to contribute financially to initial investment in electrification projects. They ensure electricity provision as well as technical and commercial management of the equipment installed.
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In New Markala, the first camp to be provided with electricity by the ERSEN project in the Kaolack region, the son of the village chief was ‘dazzled’ by the electrification of his village. After a first evening spent under the light provided by the new system, he addressed his father as follows: “Dad, when I pressed the switch and the room was lit up, I thought I was staying at my Un-

In Keur Madiouf, the first village to be provided with electricity by the ERSEN project in the Tivaouane region, a farmer named Cheikh was “dazzled” by the electrification of his village. He states: “Electricity has brought the same facilities in the village as can be found in town, the population can now practice similar activities. After a first evening spent under the light provided by the new sys-

Social engineering implemented by the ERSEN project

Social engineering is defined as a way to include local communities in electricity service delivery. It results in: 1. Systematic identification of potential productive uses of electricity during the preliminary survey stages.
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4. Integration of these productive uses into designs for electricity supply.

Hybrid minigrids (solar-diesel or solar-wind-diesel) have the capacity to provide electricity to households in villages of approximately 700 inhabitants. The service is comparable to that provided in big cities allowing the use of all types of equipment and therefore adapted for productive uses of electricity.

Local governance of electricity supply

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In Ndiaye Kahone (Kaolack region), village inhabitants now use new technologies and the village youths surf the internet with their computers.

School results improve

Teachers and students alike benefit from access to electricity. Children can do their homework in the evening in much better conditions and benefit from the teachers' use of new teaching supports that would otherwise not be available.

The quality of medical services improves

Thanks to solar energy, medical consultations, maternity and midwifery, the quality of medical services improves. Each day, children from villages having benefited from ERSEN project interventions study 30 minutes longer on average than children with no access to electricity. (RWI impact study, 2011)

In 2010, 17,000 people have a sustainable access to electricity in their homes thanks to the ERSEN project. In 2012, approximately 90,000 people in total will benefit from the same service.

The local economy is boosted

In 2010, over 80% of rural Senegalese households still had no access to electricity. In a great number of communities, schools and health posts deliver their services without any electricity. The Government of Senegal had therefore set itself the challenge of increasing access to electricity to 50% in rural areas by 2012. That requires delivering electricity to approximately 90,000 new households every year!

To reach this ambitious goal, the Senegalese Agency for Rural Electrification (ASER) is in charge of promoting electrification by providing support to local, national, and international initiatives. Its approach rests upon an electrification plan established by the Ministry in charge of Energy.

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The Rural Electrification Senegal (ERSEN) Project:
Electricity for over 90,000 persons.

In its second phase, the ERSEN project aims to extend electricity to the 265 target villages of the ERSEN project. The 265 target villages of the ERSEN project have a maximum population of 1,000, are usually situated at a long distance from the medium voltage grid, and must dispose of at least one school and one health post to be eligible for investment.
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The quality of medical services improves

Children receive more care and health services are improved thanks to access to electricity. Faama Diop, the midwife of the village, is very satisfied with the results of the project. She says that the quality of medical services has vastly improved: “I have a minimum of five patients a day. Thanks to electricity, I can even carry out nighttime visits, including for childbirth.”

The local economy is boosted

The income-generating activities in the village have increased fourfold thanks to access to electricity. The local economy is now boosted through the manufacturing of various products. Sixteen solar freezers have allowed women to preserve fresh products for sale on the weekly market in Sine Massou (Thiès region). In the village of Ndiebel (Kaolack region), girls and women have been able to purchase sewing machines and a sewing workshop has been opened. In the village of Ndiaye Kahone, a sewing workshop for men has been opened.

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