

Unlocking Public and Private
Finance for the Poor



INLUCITY SENEGAL

Addressing Poverty and Improving Livelihoods of Women
through Rehabilitation of the Soumbédioune Fish Market
in Gueule Tapée - Fass - Colobane





FISH MARKET REHABILITATION TO SUPPORT LOCAL WOMEN IN DAKAR

Women and Men at the Fish Market, Senegal

BACKGROUND

In collaboration with the municipality of Gueule Tapée-Fass-Colobane, Senegal, UN Capital Development Fund initiates this project to support women's economic empowerment by increasing incomes and improving the working conditions of women through the construction and rehabilitation of the Soumbédioune fish market. This gender responsive municipal investment aims to expand economic opportunities for women and create a conducive and clean working environment for the women selling fish.

The Soumbédioune fish market exists since 1954 and it has continued to grow along with the city of Dakar due to its strategic location in the heart of the Senegalese capital. Women are almost exclusively responsible for selling fish that they buy directly from the fishermen on the beach.

CHALLENGES

Women who use the existing market encounter a number of challenges:

- The market is not covered by a roof, as a result, women can only start selling fish at nightfall to avoid exposure to heat and sun and to prevent it from getting rotten. This time restriction limits their ability to improve their incomes and sale as well as poses threat to their security.
- There is no cold/storage room or other fish processing facility forcing women to either sell the fresh fish often at a loss at the end of the day or to buy ice in large quantities, which is a substantial cost compared to their limited incomes specially as the less they sell, the more they have to pay for storage.
- The existing resting and toilet facilities are insufficient. There is only one unisex public toilet used by both men and women vendors, which is insufficient for the number of people present in the market. There is no room for women for breastfeeding, childcare or resting and therefore women have to look after their babies while working at the same time in an unsafe environment.
- Finally, working conditions of the fish market are far from being conducive. Due to the absence of proper bins and waste disposal system, waste simply accumulates and the wastewater stagnates in the sewage pipeline. This creates an unhealthy and toxic environment and poses a major health risk for the women and children. This also discourages many customers from coming to the market and purchasing fish from the women.

GOAL: ADDRESSING POVERTY AND IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS OF WOMEN THROUGH REHABILITATION OF THE SOUMBÉDIOUNE FISH MARKET

OUR HOLISTIC SOLUTION TO BRING SYSTEMIC CHANGE



OUTCOME 1: WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IS ENHANCED THROUGH IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS AND INCREASED INCOMES

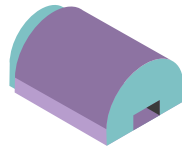


OUTCOME 2: THE MARKET'S MANAGEMENT IS INCLUSIVE, SELF-SUFFICIENT AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE INCREASED FISCAL SPACE OF THE MUNICIPALITY

KEY ACTIONS



Construction of the Market Roof



Provision of a Cold Storage Room



Provision of Sewage System



Space for Rest for Women



Space for Childcare



Separate toilets for women and men

In addition to strengthening economic empowerment of the targeted saleswomen, the project will also train these women in better techniques related to processing fish products as well as sales processes to familiarize women with efficient ways to commercialize processed products and generate better incomes through the diversification of economic activities.

The Soumbédioune market has an important regional influence, which will be further strengthened to create a local and sustainable economic hub centered around saleswomen. Women will be leading the management of the market and the new infrastructure (cold storage room) by organizing themselves in a management committee. They will also be responsible for the proper functioning and profitability of their own business.

INCREASE IN MUNICIPALITY INCOME

The new income-generating activities operated by women and the modernization of the fish market will allow the municipality to generate additional income. In addition, UNCDF will also support the municipality on the implementation of a digital tax collection tool, which will significantly increase the financial means available to the municipality.

The municipality's successful development depends on the modernization of the whole area: renovation of the craft market and the fishing pier and complete modernization of the Canal. To this end, UNCDF is already working with the city council and the Public-Private Partnership Division (DPPP) to effectively plan the implementation of this project. This initiative will fulfill the municipality's strategy to increase own revenues and continue economic and social development in the area.



Existing fishers market, Sombédioune, Senegal

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UNCDF offers "last mile" finance models that unlock public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development.

UNCDF pursues innovative financing solutions through: (1) financial inclusion, which expands the opportunities for individuals, households, and small and medium-sized enterprises to participate in the local economy, while also providing differentiated products for women and men so they can climb out of poverty and manage their financial lives; (2) local development finance, which shows how fiscal decentralization, innovative municipal finance, and structured project finance can drive public and private funding that underpins local economic expansion, women's economic empowerment, climate adaptation, and sustainable development; and (3) a least developed countries investment platform that deploys a tailored set of financial instruments to a growing pipeline of impactful projects in the "missing middle".



For more information contact:
Ms. Lea Desgranges
Project Specialist, Senegal
lea.desgranges@uncdf.org

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UN Capital Development Fund Two UN Plaza, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10017

 www.uncdf.org

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