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UN In Action

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SENEGAL: LET THE SUN SHINE

VIDEO

WOMEN IN VEGETABLE GARDEN

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AWA NDIAYE ON-CAM

President, Women's Cooperative

SOLAR ENERGY

AUDIO

MUSIC

NARRATION

Here in Senegal, a country in West Africa, these women are gathering produce from their own garden. (6)

But only a few years ago they struggled to grow anything at all because of soil degradation and lack of water due to climate change. (9)

AWA NDIAYE:

"Before it was not easy, due to lower rainfall the soil became degraded and there was no more land to cultivate. We were going to move away, but now thanks to solar energy we have enough water to develop our land."
(15)

NARRATION

Solar energy is used to pump water from the wells, ensuring that the 65 women in this

cooperative have a steady supply for irrigation. (9)

WATERING PLANTS

This is all part of a 30-million-dollar investment by the Global Environment Facility and the UN's International Fund for Agricultural Development. (10)

WATER WELL

Improvements to irrigation systems and water management are under way and new farming practices have a positive impact on the communities. (10)

ABIBOULAYE BA:

ABIBOULAYE BA ON-CAM
Monitoring & Evaluation Officer

“With the adoption of good farming techniques that are more suitable to the changed climate, the project has helped improve soil fertility, which has led to an increase in productivity, permitting the community to improve their standard of living, their health and nutrition.” (17.5)

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NARRATION

DIVERSE CROPS

One technique is to diversify production to cope with a change in climate. (5)

NARRATION

CROPS

This provides a more varied diet with less chances of hunger if one crop fails. (5)

FISH FARM

And with an abundant supply of water, these women are starting a new business – fish farming – a good source of protein and extra income for their families. (15.5)

FOOD PROCESSING

To make the most of their yields, these women have also learned how to process their own food. Awa says they can earn more and at the same time reduce waste. (9)

AWA ON-CAM

AWA NDIAYE:

“Before part of the garden crops were not sold and were likely to rot; but by processing products, like tomato sauce or jams, we were able to make a profit and create a fund to finance other activities.” (12)

LIVESTOCK

NARRATION

With this extra money, farmers can buy livestock and other food supplies. Awa, who was widowed five years ago, can now look after the 21 members of her extended family, including 8 children and 8 grandchildren. (13.5)

AWA ON-CAM

AWA NDIAYE:

“We have had record yields, and this allowed us to rebuild our house and buy sheep; Each woman in the group has at least four sheep and some have bought oxen, others furniture. This project has had a very concrete impact on our lives.” (15)

HARVESTING

NARRATION

In a nearby village more suitable crops are helping other farmers like Adja Ndao make the most of their limited resources. Here they

can now grow a fast-maturing rice variety that can thrive with less rain. (14)

ADJA NDAO:

“Good agricultural practices and technologies have saved us. Now we have less good land, but with seeds that have short cycle and high yields instead of farming many hectares we farm a few and still get a large production.” (12)

ADJA NDAO ON-CAM
Farmer

NARRATION

Awa and Adja are among more than 32, 000 families who have improved their nutrition, health and incomes through these changes. And, more importantly, they're are now better equipped to face an uncertain future and to cope with the challenges of a changing climate. (20.5)

PREPARING MEAL

This report was produced by Sam Cole for the United Nations. (6)

UN LOGO