

SENEGAL



Economic Indicators

Population 1999 (million)	10,051,930 ¹
Population Growth (1999)	3.3% ²
GDP 1998 (US\$ million)	\$15.6 billion ³
GDP Growth 1997-99 (%)	5% - 6% ⁴
Inflation Rate (1999)	1.9% ⁵
GNP/capita 1995 (US\$)	552 ⁶
GDP/capita 1998 PPP (US\$)	1600 ⁷
Foreign direct Investment (US\$ million)	
African Competitiveness ranking	
Human Development Index 1995 (%)	
Local Currency and Exchange Rate	560 CFAF = 1 US (Dec.98) ⁸
Stock Exchange	No
Number of Households rural/urban	1,116,881, 45% in urban centres ⁹
People per Household rural/urban	9
Access to electricity (% of population)	25%



Source: CIA, World Factbook 1999

¹ Areed Senegal Report, Youba Sokona, ENDA

² CIA – The World Factbook 1999, Senegal

³ Areed Senegal Report

⁴ ibid

⁵ ibid

⁶ ibid

⁷ CIA-The World Factbook 1999, Senegal

⁸ CIA Factbook

⁹ Areed Senegal Report

Overview

Senegal today has a healthy economy, including low inflation and, for the region, relatively high per capita GDP. This combined with the low overall rate of electrification and new government policies of privatisation, decentralisation and reform of the energy sector, creates some sound opportunities for new forms of rural energy service provision. The threat to successful deployment is a still insufficient financial framework for the private sector.

Predominant environmental issues linked to energy resources are deforestation, soil erosion, and desertification - across all sectors, 60% of the energy consumed comes from the unsustainable use of wood or charcoal. Energy for transport, electricity and lighting is derived from petroleum-based fuels, which make up 31% of Senegal's imports.

One quarter of the population in Senegal has access to electricity. In urban areas, the percentage rises to 50% but drops as low as 5% among the rural population. Only 250 of the 13,000 villages in Senegal are electrified. In those areas, only 25% of households are actually connected to the grid, as financial or infrastructural constraints prohibit access by the greater population.

A number of RET programmes, mostly photovoltaic (PV), have been deployed in the country to date. Mostly local enterprises are responsible for the distribution of the technology. Next to its ongoing efforts to incorporate solar energy into national electricity production, the government is also now looking to develop and promote the use of wind technology.