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USAID/SENEGAL DONATES US\$50,000 TO HELP PREVENT OUTBREAKS OF DISEASE AND IMPROVE WATER EVACUATION IN THE PIKINE EAST AREA OF DAKAR

DAKAR, Senegal, September 30, 2008 – In response to the recent onslaught of flooding in peri-urban neighborhoods of Dakar region, USAID will be donating US \$50,000 (22,340,000 FCFA) to alleviate the suffering of flood victims and help mitigate the high risk of disease. The funds will be spent to perform a rapid hygiene awareness campaign and for pumping the water by Catholic Relief Services in the Pikine East zone of Dakar.

The funds will contribute to 1) helping remove water from homes and access roads and 2) improve hygiene conditions and reduce exposure to water-borne diseases. The funds were issued after USAID/Senegal carried out an initial assessment in consultation with the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) Regional Office for West and North Africa, based in Dakar. OFDA is part of USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, and is responsible for facilitating and coordinating US Government disaster assistance overseas.

"These targeted funds will help avoid a difficult situation from becoming even worse," said USAID/Senegal Director Kevin J. Mullally. "We hope to ensure that those who are living in unhygienic conditions caused by this terrible flooding will have the support they need to remain healthy," he added.

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