TRANSFORMING LIVES IN URBAN AREAS
EU SUPPORT FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

DRAINAGE AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE
IMPROVING FLOOD AND WASTEWATER DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE IN LOMÉ, TOGO’S CAPITAL CITY

REGION AFRICA COUNTRY TOGO FOCUS URBAN STORM WATER AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

CONTEXT

The EU and its Member States consider that a holistic, integrated and place-based approach to urban development, together with a long term vision, is necessary in order to promote well-managed, liveable, socially inclusive and safe, resilient, resource-efficient and environmentally sustainable as well as economically prosperous cities of all sizes, as well as developing the capability to achieve them.

Promoting green and resilient cities is a key pillar of this approach.

BACKGROUND

Persistent flooding, stagnant storm water, weak drainage infrastructure and the absence of appropriate waste water treatment facilities are just some of the recurrent challenges in the city of Lomé and its outskirts leading to poor overall health of the local population.

Inhabitants are susceptible to waterborne or mosquito-borne diseases, higher rates of drowning and exposure to household and industrial waste which exacerbate poverty. The areas most affected by flooding are those where the lowest-income groups live.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Phase I of the Urban Development Programme for Togo (PAUT) helped curb persistent flooding in the lagoon area (Southern part of the city) enhancing the lives of 20,000 inhabitants.

- Construction of a new outlet and the rebuilding of an existing outlet to the west of the city, increasing the discharge capacity of the lagoon system. Building of stormwater drainage culverts into urban roads in different points of the city.

- Inhabited areas hit regularly by flood water as highlighted by the 2008 and 2010 severe floods were drained of flood water.
APPROACH

Phase I tackled the causes of flooding and addressed weaknesses in Lomé’s storm and wastewater management by:

- financing the construction of a new outlet and the rebuilding of an existing outlet to the west of the city;
- increasing the discharge capacity of the lagoon system.
- building stormwater drainage culverts into urban roads in different points of the city.

LESSONS LEARNED

Investment in storm and wastewater infrastructure significantly improves the environment of the city, and thus the living conditions of the inhabitants, their safety (many people died in the floodings) and their health. It also stimulates job creation and provides important training opportunities for local communities and young people in particular living and working in the area.

MOVING FORWARD

Phase II of the programme is currently being implemented at a cost of EUR 43 million that aims to improve the lives of 300,000 inhabitants affected by flooding living in districts to the north of the harbour area situated to the east of the city.

Technical and financial support for enhancing and maintaining a system of lagoon water-ways for the city which will carry storm water into drains and a canal network for the city will be established.

The EU continues to invest in secondary cities in Togo and with the support from Phase II of PAUT, five regional areas will have Rainwater drainage Master Plans at their disposal to help better plan their urban areas.

“I suffered a lot of the past floodings ... I had a library that was decimated by rain water and moisture in the walls ... Now I am trying to build a new library for the lagoon community. Fortunately the EU and our policy makers have thought about us, to build a much necessary infrastructure that relieves us from the overflow of water from the lagoon. Otherwise I would not have the courage to do it again.

Julien Anani - a resident of the district Nyekonakpoé (south of Western lagoon)

TOTAL PROJECT VALUE

EUR 64.2 MILLION

CONTACT

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TIMEFRAME

PHASE I: 2007 – 2014
PHASE II: 2013 – 2020

PARTNERS

AGETUR AND CITA FRIC FOR PAUT I
AGENCE FRANCAISE DE DEVELOPPEMENT (AFD) AND LOUIS BERGER SAS FOR PAUT II

FUNDING SOURCE

9TH AND 10TH EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUNDS (EDF)