



FRSD NEWSLETTER



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this **first edition** of the newsletter of the **Regional Stabilisation and Development Fund (RSDF)** of the ECOWAS Commission.

This publication aims to share the **main achievements** of the RSDF, to highlight **change-driving initiatives** and to strengthen **dialogue** with all our partners and citizens of the region.

Through the RSDF, ECOWAS continues its commitment to **peace, stability and sustainable development**, by investing in **socio-economic infrastructure**, the **empowerment of youth and women** as well as strengthening the **livelihoods** of the most vulnerable communities.

This first edition reviews the **encouraging results** of the **pilot project** implemented in **The Gambia**, which demonstrate the concrete impact of effective **regional cooperation**. It also marks a new milestone with the **expansion of the RSDF to Sierra Leone**, after **Guinea-Bissau, Benin and Togo**, confirming our commitment to extending the benefits of this initiative to other Member States.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to the **German Federal Government**, through the **BMZ**, as well as to our partners, notably **KfW and GIZ**, for their unwavering commitment alongside **ECOWAS**. My thanks also go to the governments of beneficiary Member States, to national institutions and to communities whose mobilisation is essential to the success of the RSDF.

I invite you to follow this newsletter and to share with us this common ambition: building a **West Africa** that is more **resilient**, more **stable** and more **prosperous**.

H.E. Mrs Damtien L. TCHINTCHIBIDJA
Vice-President
ECOWAS Commission



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RSDF Pilot Project in The Gambia



(Large photo of the official ceremony in Banjul with the Vice-President of the ECOWAS Commission, Gambian authorities and German partners.)

18 552

jobs created

6 042

permanent jobs

58%

income increase

IN PICTURES



EDITOR'S NOTE

The **pilot project** of the **RSDF** in **The Gambia** marks a **major milestone** in the **mission** of **ECOWAS** for **regional stabilisation**.

In **three years**, this programme has **transformed** vulnerable communities by **creating sustainable jobs**, **strengthening local capacities** and **building essential infrastructure**.

This **special edition** celebrates these results and charts the path for **the future**.



HEADLINES

Official handover ceremony in Banjul

The **official closing** and **RSDF infrastructure handover** ceremony was held **in Banjul from 23 to 26 March 2026**.

The **ECOWAS** Commission, the **Gambian Government**, the **BMZ**, **KfW** and **GIZ** participated in this historic event marking the official transfer of projects to Gambian authorities and beneficiary communities.

KEY FIGURES

18 552
jobs created

6 042
permanent jobs

80%
young beneficiaries

58%
income increase

19
market gardens

22
poultry farms

MORE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The **RSDF** has strengthened several key sectors:

Agriculture

Horticulture

Fishing

Poultry

Technical
Training

The **infrastructure built** includes **food processing** centres, **fish smoking facilities**, **university residences**, **irrigation systems** and **modern agricultural equipment**.

LEADERS SPEAK



“The **transfer of investments** marks the **beginning** of a new phase of **national ownership** and **sustainability**.”

— Vice-President of ECOWAS

She recalled that the **sustainability** of achievements will depend on the **commitment of national authorities, local governments, community organisations** and **beneficiaries**.

GAMBIAN GOVERNMENT



The Government of The Gambia welcomed the concrete effects of the project on:

- youth employment;
- reduction of irregular migration;
- development of agricultural value chains;
- improvement of household incomes.

GERMAN PARTNER (BMZ)



Germany has reaffirmed its commitment to the RSDF by emphasising that the project is already producing visible results in infrastructure, income and economic opportunities offered to young men and women.



THE RSDF IN ACTION

The partnership that transforms territories



\$1.2 million
in funding



€20.5 million
in funding



NEXT STEPS

After the successes recorded in **The Gambia**, the **RSDF** continues its regional expansion with the launch of activities in **Sierra Leone**, a new beneficiary country of the Fund.

The technical mission planned from **20 to 24 July 2026** will be an essential step in the implementation of this new phase.



SCAN ME

FRSD NEWSLETTER

Joint monitoring mission in Guinea-Bissau

Regional Stabilisation and Development Fund

SPECIAL EDITION • GUINEA-BISSAU



Joint monitoring and supervision mission

From investment monitoring to community transformation

**4
REGIONS**

11 DAYS

7 SECTORS

**50+
BENEFICIARIES**

EDITORIAL

From investment monitoring to community transformation

This special edition is dedicated to the **joint monitoring** and supervision mission conducted in **Guinea-Bissau** from **15 April to 26 May 2026**. Led by the **RSDF** in partnership with **ECOWAS**, **KfW** and **GIZ**, this mission assessed the **concrete impact** of **investments** made in the country's most **vulnerable** regions.

Throughout these pages, you will discover the achievements on the ground, testimonies from beneficiary communities, and prospects for sustainably strengthening the resilience of populations.

KEY FIGURES

4

Regions
visited

11

Days of
mission

15+

Sites
inspected

50+

Beneficiaries
met

8

Partners
involved

7

Intervention
sectors

3

Partner
institutions

100%

Projects
evaluated

INTERVENTION SECTORS



Health



Education



Water



Agriculture



Women's empowerment



Social cohesion



Renewable energy



INVESTMENTS THAT CHANGE LIVES



EDUCATION

Construction of a high school and technical training center in Bafatá



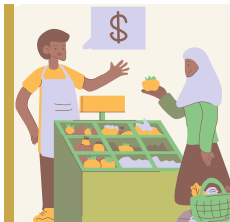
HEALTH

Rehabilitation of maternity wards, pediatrics and hospitals in Gabú



WATER

New boreholes and water supply systems in the Oio region



LOCAL ECONOMY

Support for small entrepreneurs: agriculture, food processing, materials



AT A GLANCE

- ✓ 15+ sites visited in 4 regions
- ✓ Partners met: ASAD, IMVF, SWISSAID, CARITAS-GB, Kozan Baga Baga
- ✓ Direct beneficiaries: women, youth, farmers, artisans
- ✓ Infrastructure assessed: schools, hospitals, boreholes, training centers

COMMUNITIES SPEAK

"Since the borehole was built, our women no longer walk 5 km to fetch water. Our children are in better health."

— Village chief, Oio region

"The training center allowed me to learn food processing. Today I sell my products at the regional market."

— Young entrepreneur, Bafatá

PARTNERSHIPS IN SERVICE OF RESILIENCE

The mission was conducted in **close collaboration** with a network of **committed partners** for **stabilization** and **inclusive development** in **Guinea-Bissau**.

CEDEAO

KfW

GIZ

ASAD

IMVF

SWISSAID

CARITAS-GB

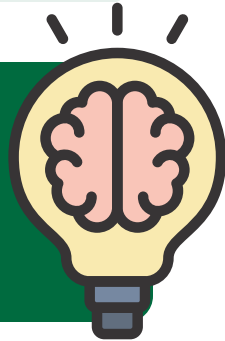
FOCUS FRSD

Integrated approach covering:

health, education, water,
agriculture,
infrastructure, entrepreneurship
and social cohesion.

Objective:

sustainably strengthen the
resilience of vulnerable
communities in the ECOWAS
region.



NEXT STEPS

Continuous monitoring and tracking of ongoing projects

Capacity building of local partners

Consolidation of results and capitalization of achievements

Acceleration of investments in priority areas



OUR COMMITMENT

The **FRSD** is **committed** to strengthening the **resilience** of **communities**, **restoring hope** and **creating lasting opportunities** for the **most vulnerable populations** in the **ECOWAS region**. Each **investment** is a step toward a more **stable and inclusive future**.



ABOUT THE FRSD

The Regional Stabilization and Development Fund is an ECOWAS instrument, in partnership with KfW and GIZ. It promotes resilience and inclusive development in fragile areas of West Africa.

Follow our actions
www.ecowas.int

FRSD NEWSLETTER

The FRSD at the heart of Beninese communities

Newsletter of the Regional Fund for Stabilization and Development

SPECIAL EDITION

Joint monitoring and supervision mission in Benin
06 - 13 May 2026



EDITOR'S NOTE

The **FRSD** embodies the will of **ECOWAS** to address security and humanitarian challenges in the region. This mission in **Benin demonstrates** our **commitment** to **supporting communities** toward **resilience** and **sustainable development**.

IN NUMBERS

13

Experts mobilized

3

Departments covered

6

Municipalities visited

19

Sites inspected

30+

Meetings held

7

Days of mission

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit of community infrastructure (**schools, dams, training centers**)
- Meetings with beneficiaries and local authorities
- Assessment of the impact of projects funded by the **FRSD**
- Working sessions with partners (**KFW, GIZ**)



IN THE FIELD



Infrastructure visited during the mission:

- Rehabilitated primary schools and middle schools
- Dams and water reservoirs
- Vocational training centers
- Community health posts
- Markets and economic infrastructure



COMMUNITIES SPEAK

"Thanks to the dam, we have water all year round. Our children no longer miss school to go fetch water."

— Female beneficiary, municipality of Matéri

"The training center changed my life. I learned a trade and today I am financially independent."

— Young beneficiary, municipality of Tanguiéta



IN PICTURES

Key moments from the mission in Benin



📷 Field visits | ❤️ Community meetings | 🗣️ Testimonies

Regional Stabilization and Development Fund | ECOWAS

KFW giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Building resilience. Strengthening communities.
Sustainably transforming territories.