African Water Facility attracts €1.2bn of follow-on investments for water projects

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Published 05 December 2014

The African Water Facility (AWF), an initiative led by the African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW), has attracted €1.2bn of follow-on investments for water management projects.

The AWF, which is hosted and managed by the African Development Bank (AfDB), aims to mobilize resources to finance water resources development activities in Africa.

On average each €1 contributed by the AWF has attracted €40 in additional follow-up investments.

The completed projects of AWF will benefit a projected 3.2 million people with access to enhanced sanitation facilities.

More than 2.8 million people will have access to improved drinking water sources.

A waterway feasibility study was carried out in Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia which demonstrated the potential of a shipping route on the Shire and Zambezi rivers.

A community of about 20,000 people was affected by an irrigation project in Swaziland which integrated stakeholders, particularly local smallholders into the evolution of the development.

The Seychelles will be benefitted by a water supply and development plan, which will help overcome water shortages on the islands.

AIDB operations vice-president for agriculture, water, human development, governance and natural resources Aly Abou-Sabaa said that the AWF had “developed into an effective vehicle for water security and green development and a successful financial leveraging instrument”.

Image: The AWF aims to mobilize resources to finance water resources development activities in Africa. Photo: Courtesy of xedos4/FreeDigitalPhotos.net.
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