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## *Drinking water pipeline project signed between Ghana and Togo*

Lomé, Togo

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The governments of Ghana and Togo have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the construction of a pipeline to bring drinking water from the lower Volta River in Ghana to the city of Lomé in Togo.

Around four million people are expected to benefit from the pipeline project, which is hoped to alleviate stress on Togo's **groundwater** supplies. On the verge of depletion due to overexploitation, their quality is now deteriorating, according to the African Development Bank (AFDB).

The Ghana Water Company will act as the executing agency of the public-private partnership (PPP) project, which will receive a €1.4 million grant from the **African Water Facility**.

A further €700,000 will be provided by the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF), with a €100 million expected to be accumulated from the private sector for the project.

In December WWi reported that the Ghana 60,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day desalination has now been completed (**watch Desalinate newscast**).

Akissa Bahri, coordinator at AWF, said: "The signing of the MoU marks the beginning of the realisation of an idea hatched in the 1970s to provide sustainable **drinking water** from Sogakope in Ghana to the residents of Lomé as well as the Ghanaian communities along the transboundary pipeline."

Following the signing of the MoU, a feasibility study, as well as environmental impact assessment will now take place.

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