



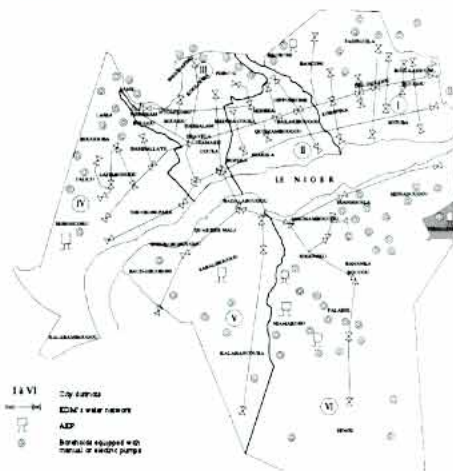
PRIVATE OPERATOR OF A SIMPLIFIED WATER SYSTEM

Bamako - MALI

Bamako: population 1,100,000 - 1,000 CFAF = US\$ 1.60



The water network has not expanded to keep pace with the growth of Bamako's urban area, especially along the river's right bank, where 70 percent of residents live.



SIMPLIFIED WATER SYSTEMS IN PERI-URBAN AREAS

The peri-urban areas, where more than half of Bamako's population lives, remain beyond the reach of the water network run by Mali Energy (EDM).

- Eight simplified water distribution systems have been built in peri-urban areas since 1997 with donor project support.
- These systems serve about 2,000 households.
- Most systems are managed by a neighborhood Water Users' Association (AEU), which hires standpipe managers and pays them a salary.

CHOOSING A PRIVATE WATER OPERATOR IN YIRIMADIO

In the Yirimadio district (11,000 residents), the Water Users' Association delegated water system management to a private operator. The arrangement involves

- shared management responsibilities, to limit the risk of malfunction resulting from direct technical involvement by volunteer association members,
- a security deposit of CFAF 500,000 paid by the operator, who signs a one-year contract, renewable subject to approval by the Users' Association.



Yirimadio's Simplified Water System: A well with an electric pump feeds a raised water storage tank, which provides water to three standpipes.

SHARED MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The terms of the leasing contract stipulate that:

- The Users' Association is responsible for supervision water production, network extension, and major repairs (to the water storage tower, the electric pumping system, the network mains).
- The contractor is responsible for production, distribution, and sale of treated water, for routine maintenance, and for network security.

The contractor employs three standpipe vendors and a watchman. He takes care of:

- selling water at the price set by the Users' Association: CFAF 250/m³, of which CFAF 80/m³ sold is handed over to the Association,
- paying the electricity bill, maintenance bills, and payroll, along with any city taxes on the business.



The private operator chosen by Yirimadio's Water Users' Association is a native of the district and the director of a private school there.



The plumber repairs a standpipe.

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Average annual sales: CFAF 6 million, depending on the season and the supply of electricity.