Rationale for action
The Dakar Region is increasingly facing the risk of flooding linked to the return of rainfall episodes after the drought of the years 1970-2000, but also to the strong urbanization and anarchic occupation of certain areas. Since 2005, floods have become a recurring problem there, especially in its periphery (peri-urban area of Dakar). In 2009, 44% of the population of the city of Pikine were directly affected by the floods (Ndiongue, 2014). It is in this context of questioning and seeking innovative solutions to the scourge of floods that the “Living with water” project worn by civil society in partnership with the government of Senegal. The NGO EVE has therefore developed, in partnership with sister organizations, the technical services of the State, local communities and organized communities, know-how around the problem of flood management in the suburbs of Dakar. This experience concerns both the preparation of actors to deal with floods, the assistance of people affected by floods and recovery actions following floods.

Objectives of the initiative
- Develop and operationalize 10 municipal contingency plans to improve people’s resilience to the phenomenon flooding in the Dakar region.
- Organize communities to improve the decision-making process for flood management in 10 municipalities of the Dakar suburbs.
Main stages of the project
- realization of the inventory of actors and flood management systems at community level and collection and analysis of secondary data development and validation of primary data collection tools
- collection, processing and analysis of primary data sharing and community validation of results contingency planning
- identification of actions and procedures for implementing plans definition of orientations (based on the results of the diagnosis, identifications of actions and procedures, restitution and validation of local contingency plans establishment
- of the community monitoring and evaluation framework)
- Validation by deliberation of the plans for the distribution of contingency plans
- reinforcement of the structure and equipment of actors in vulnerable intervention areas

Achievements
- Support for the development and operationalization of local contingency plans in 10 municipalities of Pikine and Guédiawaye
- Capacity building of local actors on prevention and fight against floods
- Establishment of communal monitoring and mobilization committees for actors called Communal intervention units..

Lessons learned
- A harmonization of the interventions of the different partners in order to strengthen the synergy of action is a success factor for a project requiring the establishment of an effective local intervention unit for forecasting and organizing flood control activities;
- Floods are the effects of climate change, local and regional authorities are more and more aware of this and show a great deal of will to deal with it, for this they still need technical (capacities) and material and financial support;
- Civil society organizations, in synergy with local governments, are called upon to play a supporting role in these processes, which is often appreciated by local populations;
- The fight against floods has become a priority for local communities in the suburbs of Dakar since the phenomenon negatively impacts their livelihoods.

Acteurs impliqués
- OCB, Communes
- District delegates
- religious authorities
- Prefects and sub-prefects
- SNH
- Health district

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