Hygienic use of new latrines is a result of strategic information, education, and communication supported by WADA.

The capacity of small, community organizations to provide drinking water has grown with support and technical guidance.

### Activities supported by the Water and Development Alliance (WADA) in Mali increase access to clean water, improve sanitation, and spur economic development in both peri-urban and rural areas. The Government of Mali is committed to reaching the Millennium Development Goal targets for water supply and sanitation service access. However, the gaps in coverage remain stark. Diarrheal disease is a leading cause of infant mortality in the country, and economic and social development is hindered due to poor water resources management.

Given the scale of the problem, WADA’s activities are strategically designed to build on and leverage the multi-partner West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI) investment. Through collaboration with WAWI, WADA works with local governments, communities, NGOs, and other stakeholders to increase access to services, improve health, promote sustainable water resources management, and build a model of partnership that can be expanded and replicated.

WADA partners are constructing water supply and sanitation infrastructure in both peri-urban and rural settings, incorporating a variety of appropriate technologies. This investment is accompanied by local capacity building to manage services sustainably and mobilize citizens to improve health and hygiene behaviors. WADA also supports the deployment of micro-irrigation technologies for income generation, including comprehensive training of local farmers in their use.

In addition to WADA’s community-based efforts, the local Coca-Cola bottler, BRAMALI, is constructing a new wastewater treatment facility that enables it to meet Coca-Cola’s global standards and local environmental regulations. WADA is investing in studies and trials to determine the feasibility of using treated effluent and by-products from the plant for small-scale irrigated agriculture in neighboring communities. Such innovative and productive reuse of water could provide a model for industry collaboration with surrounding communities in Mali and elsewhere.