



Press Release - Paris, May 16, 2019

Meridiam Closes its First Carbon Credits Sales for Two Solar Power plants In Senegal

- A tangible contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- At least 170k€ of additional financial revenues for local sustainable actions
- United Nations certified credits

Meridiam is pleased to announce the first carbon credits transaction originated from its two solar plants in Senegal, Senergy (30 MW) and Ten Merina (30 MW). On its initial phase the deal, settled with Aera Group, covers up to 7 years' deliveries. It shall generate an estimated € 1.7 Million over this period, among which € 600 k of firm commitments in the next 2 years.

Both solar farms as well as those carbon credits concretely contribute to many of the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), and especially:


- **Fighting against climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy. (SDG 13)**
Senergy and Ten Merina solar plants supply with green electricity the equivalent need of more than 400,000 people in Senegal. Those solar farms contribute to the country efforts to diversify their production sources with renewables (now representing more than 20% of the Senegal Energy mix). They are a tangible solution to replace fossil fuels with clean energy. Thanks to them, 67,000 tons of CO₂ emissions are avoided every year.
- **Promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth (SDG 8)**
This transaction will increase the positive and sustainable impact of the projects for the local communities, as Meridiam will directly dedicate at least 10% of the total revenues (€ 170 k) to local Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) actions. These will comprise initiatives in favor of vulnerable groups (women and young), such as the micro credit initiative to help women access entrepreneurship in collaboration with empow'her, or restauration of livelihood.
- **Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (SDG 7)**
These 2 solar plants are the first of its kinds in Senegal and one of the largest in West Africa. They offer tariffs being 40% lower than the initial production issued from thermal sources. Almost half of the revenues coming from the carbon credit will be distributed to the offtaker Senelec (40% for Ten Merina, and 50% for Senergy).

For Thierry Deau, CEO of Meridiam: *"This initiative is another example of Meridiam's philosophy to deliver sustainable and resilient infrastructure that improve the quality of people's lives. It demonstrates Meridiam's strong commitments and dedication toward Environment, Social and Governance issues (ESG), as well as Sustainable Development Goals wherever it operates. It also underlines how Meridiam permantly strives for increasing the financial and non-financial value of its assets all along their lifetime to the benefits of communities."*

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.



About Meridiam

Meridiam was founded in 2005 by Thierry Déau, with the belief that the alignment of interests between the public and private sector can provide critical solutions to the collective needs of communities. Meridiam is an independent investment firm specializing in the development, financing, and management of long-term and sustainable public infrastructure projects and assets in the mobility, energy transition and social infrastructure sectors. With offices in, Addis Ababa, Amman, Dakar, Istanbul, New York, Luxembourg, Paris, Toronto and Vienna, Meridiam currently manages 7 billion Euros of assets, and more than 70 projects and assets to date. Meridiam is certified ISO 9001: 2015, ISO 26000 Advanced by VigeoEiris and operates on a proprietary methodology in relation to ESG and impact based on UNSDGs. www.meridiam.com  Meridiam

About Aera Group

Aera Group’s mission is to convert CO2 emissions reduction into revenues to boost low carbon projects dissemination in Africa. In a carbon constraint world, CO2 emissions are capped and priced; thus, a financial asset to be monetized. Aera Group helps project developers to certify and transact their emission reductions to generate additional incomes. The group is the largest carbon credits originator and trader in Africa.

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