

Saudi Fund inaugurates Arkiz Project in support of water and food security

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In the presence of the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouni, the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) Director General of Arab Countries Operations, Eng. Bandar Al-Obaid participated in the inauguration of the Arkiz Agricultural Project, which the Fund has contributed to financing through a development loan worth \$34 million.

The Arkiz Agricultural Project aims to enhance water and food security in the country and contribute towards developing a key developmental sector. SFD recognises the vital importance of this sector and project, which will reclaim approximately 6,700 hectares of agricultural land, help raise agricultural production capacity, and generate employment opportunities. Additionally, the project will improve the efficiency of Mauritania's water, irrigation and drainage facilities, while delivering agricultural equipment and potable water for farmers and the brotherly people of Mauritania.

SFD's financial support of the Arkiz Agricultural Project fits within its ongoing efforts to strengthen vital developmental sectors in Mauritania, through a range of development-focused projects and programs. Since 1979, the Fund has contributed towards 20 development projects in the country, worth over \$665 million.