

Remarks
Ambassdor Lewis Lukens
Income Generating Project Inauguration –
Kanel “*Bamtaare Lenol*” Women’s Group
Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

(As prepared)

Good day friends from the Kanel community!

Asalamu Alekum, Bandirabé Kanel nabé
Diam Gnali!

M. le Gouverneur de Matam
M. le Préfet de Matam
M. le Maire de Kanel

As the Ambassador of the United States of America to Senegal and Guinea Bissau, it is with great pleasure that I come to the city of Kanel in Matam to inaugurate this income-generating project. The U.S. Government is honored to have financially supported the women’s association “*GIE Bamtaare Lenol*” of Kanel to purchase these machines, including a millet machine, a peanut grinder and a grain huller.

We believe this initiative is one of the most effective activities to reduce these women’s daily tasks -- while providing them with a revenue stream to improve their living conditions, and subsequently those of their families.

Indeed, the Ambassador’s Self-Help Program of the Embassy of the United States of America is a funding program that encourages local, and community-based initiatives and micro-projects. This program traditionally targets community groups, cooperatives, associations, and well-organized village committees devoted to the development of their community.

The Women’s Association of *Bamtaare Lenol* captured the interest of the U.S. Embassy -- thanks to your motivation, your sense of organization -- and, especially your ardent desire to perform sustainable and profitable activities. Through the assistance given by the Government of the United States to this women’s group, we anticipate a strong and positive impact on their families, their communities and the people of the surrounding villages.

The United States of America and the Government of Senegal share the profound conviction that economic development is vital in building a great society. We are committed to promoting the work of the Women’s Association of *Bamtaare Lenol* by providing our support.

I congratulate the Women’s Association “*Bamtaare Lenol*” of Kanel for this project, and wish them every success in their future endeavors.

Congratulations for your hard work, Women of Kanel!

Gaccé ngaala émone / Rewbé Kanel!

Thank you!
On Dairama!