



UDUMA
in Mali

1,500 pumps installed
60 rural communities
600,000 people supported

In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than 400 million people don't have access to safe drinking water, and the network of communal pumps in rural areas can't always guarantee a continuous quality supply. On that basis, and in light of waning development aid for improving water access, Uduma, a subsidiary of French manufacturer Odial Solutions (holding company of Vergnet Hydro), has introduced the first public-private partnership (PPP) in Burkina-Faso and Mali to provide drinking water to up to 600,000 people. The PPP includes Uduma, Mali's National Directorate of Hydrology, as well as three Dutch NGOs operating in Mali, including SNV. In this context, PayinTech's cashless technology was chosen to facilitate payments for drinking water from pumps in these rural areas, and for collecting and securing all related financial transactions.



Broader access to drinking water

Provided by Uduma in partnership with PayinTech, this service will allow a network of 1,500 human-powered pumps to be operated across 60 different rural communities in the Sikasso region. This innovative and sustainable project is based on a whole new financing model for the industry and represents a world first. The payment system set up by PayinTech will allow Uduma to oversee the operational management of the network and ensure access to safe drinking water at fair prices, as governed by Mali's water code.



Easy access and operation

Every user will pick up a cashless NFC card from a kiosk in their village, before charging it with however much money they want. They can then go directly to one of the nearby water points, where a fountain worker ensures they are charged for the units consumed. Debits are taken via a mobile device running the PayinTech app, which can be charged using solar power, without the need for an active mobile or Internet connection.



Efficient management

The PayinTech transaction engine takes care of configuring, administering and managing the entire system. This solution means the water points in Mali can be run by a private operator while guaranteeing the quality of the water. The project will create 1,600 jobs, but it doesn't end there – the wider goal is to roll out the system in other parts of Mali, as well as several other West African states.

