



THANK YOU

Santhie Aliou Mbaye, Senegal



دبي العطاء  
Dubai Cares

buildOn

HARIRUD  
International Support Services

The West African coastal country of Senegal is home to over 13 million people. 42 percent of the population lives in rural areas and over 50 percent are below the poverty line. According to the CIA's World Factbook, only 62 percent of men and 39 percent of women in Senegal can read and write.



The village of Santhie Aliou Mbaye, is a community of approximately 400 people located in the Kaolack region. It is about 2 km from the closest main road and 25 km from the closest buildOn office. Most of the people are subsistence farmers who rear livestock and grow corn, hibiscus, millet and beans.

With your help, the people of Santhie Aliou Mbaye now have increased access to education that will help effect change in the lives of children, parents, and grandparents for generations. Each new school helps Senegal increase literacy rates one community at a time.

## BEFORE CONSTRUCTION



*Photo: The former school in Santhie Aliou Mbaye.*

At the time of construction, Santhie Aliou Mbaye had one government supported primary school, with 56 students (21 girls and 35 boys). Two teachers taught three grade levels in one temporary classroom. Students walked as far as 2 kilometers to another community with suitable classrooms for learning.

## BUILT BY THE COMMUNITY

Before breaking ground on a new school, every member of the partnering community, both men and women, must sign the buildOn Covenant. The Covenant is a solemn promise between buildOn and each village outlining their respective contributions to the project.

Each Covenant embodies the consensus of an entire community, and for many of the women in the village, it will be the first time they have been asked to sign their name. Even as many must sign with a thumbprint, everyone is overjoyed to pledge their commitment to a school that will end illiteracy for their children, their grandchildren, and themselves.

Dubai Cares and buildOn contributed the engineering, materials, skilled labor, and project supervision. Each village provides the land, local materials such as sand, and the unskilled labor to build the school. Additionally, every village promises to send girls and boys to school in equal numbers.

The community of **Santhie Aliou Mbaye** broke ground on their new school on September 7, 2015.



*Photo: A village elder signs the covenant*



*Photo: The community members make bricks for the school.*



*Photo: Women work at mixing cement on the work-site.*

## THE DUBAI CARES - BUILDON SCHOOL IN SANTHIE ALIOU MBAYE



THANK YOU again for sponsoring a school in Santhie Aliou Mbaye, Senegal. With your help, we are breaking the cycle of poverty, illiteracy, and low expectations through service and education.

The new school in Santhie Aliou Mbaye has two classrooms and two gender-specific latrines. It is furnished with desks, seats, and permanent chalkboards. The project broke ground on September 7, 2015, and was completed on October 19, 2015. Community members provided a combined 685 volunteer workdays and students began attending classes in their new school on November 12, 2015.