

The Facility « Investing for Employment » announces the launch of the first official call for proposals in Senegal

Press Release

Dakar, 22 February 2021



Today, many African countries have dynamic economies that offer excellent investment opportunities. However, additional support is needed to overcome local challenges and stimulate job-creating activities.

As the second largest economy in the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), Senegal has undertaken an economic turnaround by implementing the "Plan Senegal Emergent" in 2014. Between 2014 and 2018, the

country recorded one of the strongest economic growth rates in Africa, over 6 % per year, despite an economic structure largely based on the informal sector. However, at the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has considerably dampened the country's economic outlook, but a recovery is expected in 2021 with a growth rate that could reach 5,2 %.

In addition, the Senegalese government has put in place an adjusted and accelerated Priority Action Plan for the period 2021 to 2023. Its main objective is to stimulate private investment, diversify growth factors and strengthen economic sustainability. One of the three main development challenges that the Senegalese government has set itself is to increase competitiveness, job creation and increase the efficiency of labour markets. Despite this, the business climate and the high structural unemployment rate require further reforms in the areas of education and training, administration, taxation and the business environment.

The Facility « Investing for Employment » (IFE) is an investment facility created by KfW Development Bank (KfW) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) as an integral part of the Special Initiative on Training and Job Creation. Operating under the brand Invest for Jobs, the Special Initiative aims to create good jobs and apprenticeships and to improve working conditions in its partner countries in Africa: Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt (in preparation), Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Rwanda, Tunisia and Senegal.

To reach this goal, IFE awards co-financing grants ranging from **1 million EUR to 10 million EUR** per project through a competitive application process. The first call for proposals in Senegal will be launched on **25 March 2021** seeking applications for four types of projects:

Implemented by

1. Public Infrastructure for job creation (covers up to 90 % of the cost)
2. Common service for job creation (covers up to 75 % of the cost)
3. Projects that foster direct job creation which have benefits/impacts more broadly than solely for the project owners (covers up to 50 % of the cost)
4. Projects that foster direct job creation by companies (covers up to 25 % of the cost).

Green economy is also one of the key elements that applicants will have to take into account. A criterion that aligns with the initiatives taken by Senegal, which joined the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) in 2014 to particularly promote green industry, trade and employment.

The evaluation of the projects will be carried out by the Facility IFE. The evaluation process covers a first pre-selection stage based on submitted concept notes and a second phase of a detailed project proposal evaluation.

IFE invites companies and other interested organisations, whether public or private, as well as consortia to submit concept notes as soon as the **call for proposals opens on 25 March 2021 at 5 pm CET**.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, information meetings will be organised online, presenting the objectives of the facility, its conditions for submitting proposals, as well as the steps and modalities of participation, the eligibility of projects and the evaluation criteria of the submitted concept notes.

For more information about the Facility « Investing for Employment »:

<https://invest-for-jobs.com/en/investing-for-employment>

For more information about the Special Initiative on Training and Job Creation:

<https://invest-for-jobs.com/en>

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

For general enquiries regarding the Special Initiative and the Facility « Investing for Employment »:

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