



ARCHIPELAGO

an African-European partnership
for vocational training

project funded by the European Union

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PRESS FILE

Kick-off Conference ARCHIPELAGO Programme

December 10, 2018 - Dakar (Senegal)

Consortium in charge of the implementation of the programme



The European Commission, together with SEQUA, CPCCAF and EUROCHAMBRES, organise on December 10, 2018, in Dakar the kick-off conference of the ARCHIPELAGO programme.

15 M€

4 years

12 countries

ARCHIPELAGO is a 4-year European programme, funded by the European Union in the framework of the EU Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa and whose main objective is to improve the employability of youth through targeted technical and vocational training measures, and strengthen the entrepreneurial skills of SMEs in 12 countries in the Sahel and Lake Chad region (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Chad).

The global budget allocated to ARCHIPELAGO amounts to 15 million EUR. The programme is implemented from December 2018 to November 2022.

The ARCHIPELAGO programme thus aims to support the creation of sustainable and decent job opportunities in West and Central Africa. As a result, it contributes to tackle the grievances arising from economic and social exclusion, marginalisation and inequality, usually considered as the most significant drivers of violence, radicalisation, forced displacement and irregular migration.

ARCHIPELAGO is based on the mobilization of African and European private sector organisations (chambers, business associations, training centers etc.). These key stakeholders will implement partnership projects, selected through calls for proposals and resulting in the implementation of vocational and entrepreneurial training activities oriented towards the local market's needs.

Each specific partnership project will have a budget of EUR 400,000 to 600,000 for a period of 24 to 36 months. The programme management team will ensure the organisation of calls for proposals, the coordination and monitoring of the 20 to 25 partnership projects, the provision of documents and tools, as well as the exchange of experiences and good practices between stakeholders.

Like an archipelago, the programme will establish links between stakeholders in the 12 African partner countries and Europe so that partnership projects are not isolated actions but belong to the same group pursuing common objectives and working in interaction.

The launch of the ARCHIPELAGO programme in Dakar on 10 December 2018 will establish a significant synergy with the network of members of the Permanent Conference of African and Francophone Consular Chambers (CPCCAF), which will organize its Annual General Assembly on 11 and 12 December 2018 in Dakar.

Programme funded by the European Union / EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa and implemented by :



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The consortium responsible for the implementation of the ARCHIPELAGO programme is made up of three institutions representing the European and African private sector



SEQUA gGmbH, based in Bonn, Germany, was founded in 1991 by the leading German private sector federations. Today its institutional members are the German Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK), the German Association of Chambers of Crafts and Trades (ZDH), the Federation of Industry (BDI), the Employers' Federation (BDA) and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). SEQUA has implemented more than 1000 projects and programmes for private sector development and vocational educational and training in more than 100 countries in partnership with private sector organizations (chambers, associations, etc.).



CPCCAF - Conférence Permanente des Chambres Consulaires Francophones, created in 1973 and headquartered in Paris at the Paris-Ile-de-France Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is a permanent network of 130 affiliated Francophone consular chambers and 600 chambers indirectly involved in 31 countries. The primary purpose of the CPCCAF is to encourage and organise bilateral (or multilateral) cooperation between the consular organisations of its member countries in all areas relating to the development of the business world.



EUROCHAMBRES, the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry, was established in 1958 in Brussels. 47 national associations representing more than 2000 regional and local chambers of commerce and industry are members of EUROCHAMBRES. EUROCHAMBRES' main mission is to represent the interests of the European private sector towards the European institutions in order to improve the framework conditions in which companies operate. On the other hand, EUROCHAMBRES implements many EU-funded projects to promote the development of the private sector and trade.



Short presentation of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa



The European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa (EUTF for Africa) aims to foster stability and to contribute to better migration management, including by addressing the root causes of destabilisation, forced displacement and irregular migration.

The EUTF for Africa implements activities across three regions of Africa – the Sahel and Lake Chad, the Horn of Africa and North Africa, and works with twenty-six partner countries, which are facing growing challenges in terms of demographic pressure, extreme poverty, weak social and economic infrastructure, internal tensions and institutional weaknesses, insufficient resilience to food crises and environmental stress.

The consequences of such complex challenges are hugely varied and interconnected. Among others, they include open conflict, forced displacement, irregular migration, criminal activities and lawlessness, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings, radicalisation and violent extremism.

The EUTF for Africa focuses its actions around 4 pillars:

- Economic development programmes addressing skills gaps, and improving employability through vocational training, and supporting job creation and self-employment opportunities with a focus on strengthening micro, small and medium size enterprises (MSMEs)
- Strengthening resilience for improved food and nutrition security, in particular for the most vulnerable, as well as refugees and internally displaced persons
- Improving migration governance and management, including addressing the drivers of irregular migration, effective return, readmission and reintegration, international protection and asylum, legal migration and mobility, and enhancing synergies between migration and development
- Supporting improvements in overall governance, in particular by promoting conflict prevention, addressing human rights abuses and enforcing the rule of law

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For more informaiton on the EUTF for Africa:

https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/content/homepage_en

For more information on the EU institutions and policies: <http://europa.eu>