



**MEET
AFRICA**
European Mobilisation for
-Entrepreneurship in Africa-



OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Contribute to creating employment, wealth and innovation by **transferring the know-how of African diaspora graduates** from Germany and France to their countries of origin.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- > **Support** business start-up projects led by African diaspora trained and resident in Europe
- > **Build** the capacities of partner countries to provide technical assistance for business start-up projects with high added value
- > **Build a model for an integrated European mechanism** to support innovative business start-ups by African diasporas

A programme implemented by



A programme financed by the European Union and ICMPD (€1.7m, Pan-African Instrument)

With cofinancing from the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs



Programme and Consortium Coordinating Body



Centrum für internationale Migration und Entwicklung
eine Arbeitsgemeinschaft
mit GZ und Q



Members of the consortium and support bodies for entrepreneurs

BACKGROUND

Europe is an attractive continent for many foreign students due to the quality of its higher education and the resources available for world-class research. With **373,000** mobile African students in 2013, the Africa and Maghreb region accounts for about **10%** of total student mobility worldwide. The EU hosts almost half of mobile African students (49.1%). Germany and France are among the main host countries.

Most of these students complete their university courses with high-level qualifications.

An **increasing number** of foreign students and researchers who trained in Europe **see entrepreneurship as a path towards vocational integration**. These students **express the desire to set up a company in their country of origin using their scientific and/or commercial knowledge**, meaning they can capitalise on the skills they acquired during their studies.

These diasporas are major drivers for the development of their countries of origin through their business start-up projects. African and European authorities are aware of their potential and have decided to introduce public policies to more effectively support these initiatives. Supporting innovative business start-ups that contribute to revitalising territories and creating wealth and skilled employment for the long term is a major focus area. ■

MEETAFRICA IN 6 POINTS

- 1 PURPOSE** : Assist **80** African graduate entrepreneurs from French or German higher education in setting up a company driven by technology, or with high potential for innovative solutions, in the agricultural, industrial or service sectors in their countries of origin
- 2 FINANCING** : **€1.7m** from the European Commission Pan-African Instrument
- 3 COFINANCING** from the French Ministry or Europe and Foreign Affairs
- 4 ENTREPRENEURS' COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN** : Algeria, Cameroon, Mali, Morocco, Senegal, Tunisia
- 5 COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE** : Germany, France
- 6 ONLY FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME FROM THE RABAT PROCESS**
Duration : 22 months

MEETAFRICA A PROGRAMME WITH HIGH-LEVEL SUPPORT



For over **10 years** now, the **Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process)** has been gathering over **60** African and European countries, the European Commission and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to discuss migration issues.

The Rome Declaration and Agenda for 2014-2017 from the Process identify strengthening the synergy between migration and development as one of the 4 thematic pillars of the Dialogue.

The Rabat Process Steering Committee wanted the MEETAfrica (European Mobilisation for Entrepreneurship in Africa) programme to be financed, highlighting the relevance of its approach in meeting the challenges of both mobilising young people from scientific/technical diaspora, and supporting their innovative entrepreneurship projects for the socioeconomic development of countries of origin (job and wealth creation).

It is to date the only flagship programme financed by the Process, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year (2006-2016). ■

THE SUPPORT PROVIDED

4 STAGES :



ADVICE / COACHING

Project finalisation



MATURING

Demonstration of technical feasibility



INCUBATION

Economic integration of projects in country of origin



FINANCING

Facilitating access to financing

- > **Unique positioning** during the pre-seed phase for innovative business start-up projects
- > **Transnational support**, starting in the North and finishing in the South
- > **Institutional grounding**, with support from National Reference Bodies in the countries of origin (public or parastatal agencies which assist innovative SMEs, etc.)
- > **An integrated public-private pathway** mobilising public actors, but especially an extensive network of private North-South actors and associations from the support ecosystem for innovative companies

A SUPPORT MODEL

based on European best practices

It pools the best practices of the most effective support programmes :

- IRD's **PACEIM** programme,
- Campus France's **Entrepreneurs in Africa** programme,
- GIZ/CIM's **Business Ideas for Development** programme.

► All 3 are merged in **MEETAfrica**. ■

CALL FOR PROJECTS 2016

80 winners living in Germany and France, including 27 from Sub-Saharan Africa and 53 from North Africa.



Innovative projects, most with a technological component, in the following fields: agribusiness, environment, energy, new technologies, health, etc. ■

> PROGRAMME COORDINATING BODY



Expertise France,
the French public international
cooperation agency

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> MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM AND SUPPORT BODIES FOR ENTREPRENEURS



Campus France, the French national agency
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> NATIONAL REFERENCE BODIES IN THE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Algeria : **ANVREDET** (Agence Nationale de Valorisation des résultats de la Recherche et du Développement Technologique)

Cameroon : **APME** (Agence de Promotion des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises)

Mali : **APEJ** (Agence pour la Promotion de l'Emploi des Jeunes)

Morocco : **CNRST** (Centre National pour la Recherche Scientifique et Technique)

Senegal : **ADEPME** (Agence de Développement et d'Encadrement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises)

Tunisia : **APII** (Agence de Promotion de l'Industrie et de l'Innovation)

> A HOST OF SERVICE PROVIDERS/EXPERTS FOR SUPPORT, BOTH IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH



From a flagship programme to a sustainable initiative :

« MEETAFRICA 2 »

MEETAfrica is a flagship programme which only makes sense if it continues its action over time.

A second phase is under preparation and plans to :

- > Expand to other countries of origin;
- > Open up to candidates residing in other European countries;
- > Provide a direct aid mechanism (grants) for the start-up phase (once the company has been set up), as a complement to existing mechanisms;
- > Contribute to supporting authorities in order to facilitate the pathways for the integration of innovative entrepreneurial projects in countries of origin.