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Senegal Prime Minister officially launches UNIDO's Programme for Country Partnership

Prime Minister Mohammad Dionne has officially launched UNIDO's Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) aimed at securing the country on the path of inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Praising this new approach, Dionne said "industrialization of the country should benefit all citizens" and that it will be a source of job creation.



UNIDO technical mission in Senegal to advance PCP

During a recent mission to Senegal, UNIDO experts met their national counterparts and partners to discuss the implementation modalities and main priorities for the country's 2015 Action Plan. They also met with the Prime Minister of Senegal, Mohammed Dionne, who said that his government will contribute financially to the implementation of a range of activities, in particular with respect to the integrated industrial platform at Diamniadio, the first competitive and integrated agro-pole, and an industrial and mining hub in the Kédougou region.

One of the government's priority projects for accelerating economic growth and reducing poverty is the construction of a large-scale industrial, commercial, and residential platform at Diamniadio, 35 kilometres southeast of the capital city, Dakar. The development of the Diamniadio integrated industrial platform will be led by a partnership between the government of Senegal, UNIDO and the government of China. The government of Senegal has already mobilized USD 60 million for the first phase of the Diamniadio platform.

As part of the Programme for Country Partnership for Senegal, UNIDO will assist the government in operationalizing the first competitive and integrated agro-pole to strengthen the added value of agricultural products.

The main deliverable for 2015 will be the start of the competitiveness development programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and the private sector in the industrial and mining hub region in the Kédougou region. It will include clustering, subcontracting and upgrading the activities of local SMEs.



New partnerships

A range of technical and financial partners have expressed their interest in working with UNIDO within the framework of the Programme for Country Partnership for Senegal.

China, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the World Bank Group will work on the operationalization of Diamniadio. The IDB, the European Union (EU), the African Development Bank, and Italy have indicated their readiness to partner on the establishment of up to three competitive and integrated agro-poles. The EU and other bilateral development agencies are ready to assist in the development of the industrial and mining hub in Kédougou.

In 2016, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) will finance the implementation of activities related to food security in the agro-poles, as well as those related to the sustainability of the Diamniadio project.

Technical workshop held in Dakar



During the mission, a technical workshop in Dakar brought together some 100 participants, including representatives of government institutions, the private sector, and multilateral and bilateral development agencies. It was attended by Mbodiene Guissé, the Deputy Minister of Industry; and Ibrahima Wade, Director General of the Coordination and Monitoring Office of the Plan Senegal Emergent (PSE). Participants at the workshop also visited different project sites to get a better understanding of the technical and logistical requirements being used.

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