CIDES PIKINE HAS STARTED ITS ACTIVITIES FOR INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PIKINE DEPARTMENT (SENEGAL)

By Vincenzo Milio

The CIDES Pikine has begun his work for the competitive inclusive and sustainable economic development of the Pikine Department (Dakar Region).

The CIDES, inspired by the experiences of <u>Local Economic Development Agencies</u>, is adapted, through a participatory approach, to the institutional, economic and social realities of the territory. The CIDES brings an integrated service system capable of improving the use of local resources to give concrete answers to the population of the territory by prioritizing the economic inclusion of women and youth.

From February 2016, in fact, the CIDES Pikine has become fully operational, relying on a technical team and its own headquarters. In particular, the technical team is composed of a Director, an Expert of Economic Animation and Financing, an Expert of Capacity Building and Planning. The CIDES Pikine is sharing its headquarters with a CIDES member in Pikine Nord (Espace de Concertation et d'Orientation pour le Développement de Pikine Nord - ECO-PN).

The CIDES Pikine General Assembly, approved on March 2015, is composed of 84 members, representative of 28 youth and women associations, 11 social associations, 17 local productive sectors, 15 Local Communities and 13 representatives of territorial economic and financial services.

Among the main activities put in place by the CIDES, it is important to underline the agreement reached with the Integrated Programme for Economic and Social Development PIDES for the implementation of its Credit Program. In particular, in the coming months, the CIDES will be engaged in the organization of the training program for about 120 people (women and young people in particular) belonging to micro and small enterprises; furthermore, the CIDES will provide specific technical and financial support to 22 enterprises, owned by women and young people, with particular potential of growth, belonging to the strategic value chains of fisheries and cereals. These two value chains have been prioritized taking into account the analysis made in the previous phase of the research action as well as the very high presence of women and young people working within the two value chains.

The CIDES has also already made a check-up of 16











enterprises, owned by women and young people, belonging to the prioritized value chains of fisheries (fishers, fish-processors, fish-traders) and cereals (cereals-processors and cereals-traders). The CIDES has been able to analyze in depth the status of these enterprises from the point of view of market, production, organization, external relations. This work will allow it to better organize the technical and financial support for those enterprises from both individual and value chain perspective.

As a response to the fragmentation of territorial services, the CIDES has already begun the joint work with local structures (members and non-members) which provide services for economic development, with the aim of bringing them together in a more coherent and integrated system and, at the same time, to gradually improve their quality, according to the needs of the most vulnerable population. In this regard, after a series of exchanges and meetings, the CIDES is finalizing partnership agreements with the Deconcentrated State Services of Community Development. Social Action, Support to Local Development, Youth, Fishery, Rural Development and Livestock to jointly implement actions of technical assistance and training. Another crucial partnership agreement on agricultural innovative technologies and methodologies is going to be signed with the national Institute of Food Technology ITA based in Dakar.

The CIDES design and implementation is developed within the framework of the National Strategy for Social Protection of Vulnerable Groups, promoted by the Ministry of Women. With the support of the Integrated Programme for Economic and Social Development PIDES, funded by the Government of Italy, the Ministry of Women is making many efforts to identify new paradigms of response to poverty challenges of vulnerable groups by facilitating access to services, economic opportunities and reducing inequalities. In this framework, KIP International School and the <u>ILS LEDA Program</u> have provided technical support for the design, creation and start-up of the CIDES, and encourages its future participation in networks of structures that promote inclusive and sustainable territorial development and innovation.

To know more

CIDES Pikine brochure

