

## Launching the study to design an Incubator of innovative enterprises in Kaolack Region in Senegal

On February 2014, in the Kaolack Region (Senegal), the Ministry of Commerce, Enterprises and Informal Sector chaired a workshop for launching a study to design an Incubator of innovative enterprises, in collaboration with national and local stakeholders.

The design project of the Incubator is promoted by the National Directorate of Small and Medium Enterprises, with the support of the Italian Cooperation. Its implementation is entrusted to the National Institute of Agricultural Technology, the University of Sine Saloum and the KIP International School.

In the workshop the most relevant characteristics of the project were presented, in order to design an instrument of dynamization of local enterprises focused on innovation. The Incubator should work in close collaboration with all the local stakeholders, promoting enterprises that can enhance local value chains. Therefore the study considers a work to identify the value chains particularly interesting for the region, including traditional agro-food chain (peanuts, cereals, mill, roselle, moringa, sesame), renewable energy, waste recycling, exploitation of salt, ecological construction materials and others.

The initiative also foresees the realization of a National Catalogue of innovations, to be used by the Incubator and to valorize innovative knowledges existing in the Country. The Catalogue will be implemented consulting institutions, specialized centres, universities, social associations and organizations. The IDEASS program will actively participate in this work, providing knowledges acquired at international level, related with the theme of innovation for territorial economic, environmental and social development.

The conclusions of the workshop have started the work to design the incubator and to produce the Catalogue, that will be carefully monitored by the Minister of Commerce, Enterprises and Informal Sector, in view of the utilisations of the results at national level.

### National press release

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