

Innovation and green economy for the Kaolack's territorial development

On November 14th 2014, at the premises of Kaolack's Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, an official workshop was held for the delivery of the Feasibility Study on Kaolack's Incubator for innovative enterprises and of the National Catalogue on innovative systems.

The initiative was born in 2013 in the framework of the PLASEPRI programme, promoted and managed by the Ministry of Commerce, Enterprises and Informal Sector in collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Family and Children, through the Department of Small and Medium Enterprises and the Italian Cooperation. This programme conceived the idea of strengthening the existing system of services in the Kaolack Region by implementing a new business incubator, to lead local actors to new niches of activity and support them through technical assistance and incubation services. The study was committed to a Team of National and International organizations composed by the Institute of Food Technology (ITA), in partnership with the University of Sine Saloum of Kaolack, and KIP International School.

The workshop, chaired by the Microfinance's Director on the Ministry of Women, has seen the participation of a wide institutional National and International Delegation as well as of over 45 between local Trade Associations, Organizations, Companies and Representatives of Civil Society.

During the workshop the Team charged to develop the study delivered the final project document which recommends the needed actions and strategies to develop an innovation Incubator in Kaolack, in the framework of the Senegal's "*Plan Senegal Emergent*"



and its *Strategie de Croissance Accelerée*. The Study is the result of multi-stakeholder participative process whereby local actors heavily contributed in the definition of the strategic axis for the incubator set up in order to deliver an integrated plan to positively impact and harness Kaoalck's territorial economy.

The incubator project, whose goal is to act as innovation stimulator for start-ups and established entrepreneurs, is integrated by the creation of the National Catalogue of Innovations which aims at highlighting some of Senegal's finest innovative technologies and methodologies.

The Catalogue, created through a participative process by institutions, specialized centres, universities, social associations and organizations presents 16 technologies and many other are being now assessed to be registered. In fact, one of the main aspects of the catalogue is that it is a permanent tool which will showcase Senegal's finest innovations once these will be created, with the goal to set an example of creative ideas which can be further harnessed by the incubator and become success cases as well as catalysers for local economic growth.

Both the Incubator and the Catalogue reflect the Country's development strategies and international commitments to sustainable development and green economy.

This initiative is currently brought to the attention of the National institutions and will be submitted to the attention of many actors of the international cooperation and potential partners, through which the Incubator could become a new development paradigm in response to economic development group needs, and specifically focusing on propelling economic opportunities.

The Catalogue of Innovations will be soon published on KIP International School and IDEASS websites.

To know more

[Article on the National Catalogue](#)

[Article on the *Innovation Workshop* in Kaolack](#)

