FRANCE-WORLD BANK INITIATIVE to promote Public-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPPs) in the African franc-zone countries for infrastructure development and public services in West and Central Africa

African countries of the franc zone have been experiencing steady growth for the past several years. To ensure funding and completion of the infrastructures and public services needed for development, they are seeking private sector commitments through public-private partnerships.

France-World Bank Initiative to promote Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) offers the following:

- > Technical, legal and financial support in selecting and developing priority infrastructure projects;
- Support for the establishment of a legal and institutional framework, at both national and regional levels:

> Capacity building.

The Initiative is aimed at regional organizations and States of the franc zone in Africa, which comprises 15 countries sharing a common currency, the CFA franc:

 8 countries of the Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest africaine (UEMOA) (*West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU*)) : Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo;

• 6 countries of the Communauté Economique et Monétaire de l'Afrique Centrale (CEMAC) (*Central African Economic and Monetary Community*): Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of the Congo;

the Comoros.

The Initiative thus aims at supporting the institutions of monetary unions of the franc zone: The UEMOA (WAEMU) Commission, the West African Development Bank (BOAD), the CEMAC Commission, the Development Bank of Central African States (BDEAC).

Public-Private Partnership

The Public-Private Partnership (PPP) is a form of contract by which a public authority calls upon a private company to finance, design, build and/or operate an equipment, which provides a public service or contributes to it.

PPPs are expected to play an increasing role in the investment strategies of African states in the coming years as infrastructure needs are significant and the states have limited debt capacity and insufficient tax revenues to deal with them.



- financial experts
- Training activities
- Communication actions

For France, the Directorate General of the Treasury, Ministry of Finance, commissioned the Agence Française de Développement (French Agency for Development - AFD) to lead the Initiative. Expertise France, the French Government's international technical assistance agency is in charge of capacity building and communication activities.

For the World Bank, the Initiative is led by the PPP Cross Cutting Solution Area (CCSA PPP) and the Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF) is actively involved.

At the regional level, two technical assistance agreements are running:

- Technical assistance to support the development of a strategy and a legal and institutional framework for PPPs with the UEMOA (WAEMU) Commission *(since October 2014)*,
- Technical assistance for the operationalization of the BOAD PPPs Unit *(since August 2014).*

At the national level, activities are implemented in Mali, Senegal and Togo.

EXPERTISE FRANCE

Initiative information Unit Carole Devidal <u>carole.devidal@expertisefrance.fr</u> Tél. : +33 (0)1 70 82 71 37







