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PRESS RELEASE

APRIL 29, 2024

I&P launches CATAL1.5°T acceleration program to support SMEs in the climate sector

I&P is proud to announce the launch of its new acceleration program to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the climate sector. This program is part of the CATAL1.5°T initiative, financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). It is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Financing and supporting companies offering solutions to fight against global warming

The acceleration component of the CATAL1.5°T program is aimed at start-ups and SMEs in the seed phase, whose capacity for innovation, adaptability and knowledge of local realities make them key players in the fight against climate change. Whether it's renewable energy technologies, resilient agricultural practices or sustainable natural resource management, African SMEs can offer viable, low-carbon solutions. Nevertheless, despite their potential for growth and impact, these businesses operate in regions where access to finance remains limited.

CATAL1.5°T platform West Africa is an initiative implemented in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and is funded to the tune of 10.4 million euros by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

"I&P is proud to be part of this initiative for West Africa. Acceleration is an indispensable tool for the longevity of small and medium-sized enterprises. Our expertise and the lessons learned from our acceleration programs will enable us to act effectively in the fight against climate change. West Africans are among the communities most vulnerable to climate change. SMEs supported by CATAL1.5°T provide solutions for reducing emissions, while at the same time enabling these populations to adapt to the consequences of climate change."

Barbara ADOLEHOUME, Program Manager, I&P

"We are pleased to collaborate with I&P as part of the CATAL1.5°T program. Together, our aim is to support innovative and sustainable African SMEs, which play a crucial role in the fight against climate change. Through our partnership, we hope to enhance the capacities of these enterprises and contribute to a more resilient and sustainable future for African communities."

Fatou DOUMBIA, Regional Advisor, GIZ

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Application process and selection criteria

The program will be deployed locally by I&P teams and 3 I&P partner investment funds: Comoé Capital in Côte d'Ivoire, Teranga Capital in Senegal and Sinergi Burkina in Burkina Faso.

Eligible companies must meet the following criteria:

- Be registered in one of the 8 West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo).
- Managed by men and women dedicated full-time to their business and wishing to collaborate with a group of investors.
- Operating in the sectors of energy access and power generation; low-emission transport; buildings, cities, industries, appliances; forestry and land use.
- The solution (product or service) proposed by the company reduces or avoids greenhouse gas emissions or sequesters carbon.
- Meets one of the following criteria: Less than 50 employees; or less than \$3 million in assets; or less than \$3 million in sales.

The selection process takes around 5 to 6 months and consists of:

- An eligibility and screening phase to check that the company meets the pre-established criteria
- A mandate-fit interview to better understand the company's ambitions and needs
- An in-depth due diligence phase to assess the viability and credibility of the project
- A selection committee to analyze all applications and choose the companies that will benefit from the acceleration program, paying particular attention to the relevance, innovation and potential impact of each project

This rigorous process ensures that only the most qualified and promising companies are selected to join the CATAL1.5°T initiative and benefit from its support

About



Investisseurs & Partenaires (I&P) is a pioneering impact investment group, created in 2002 and entirely dedicated to Sub-Saharan Africa. Its particularity is to target the "missing link" in the African economic fabric and provide small and medium-sized enterprises with flexible financing solutions to meet their needs. [To find out more.](#)



The Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH provides worldwide services in international cooperation for sustainable development and international education work.

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With its partners, GIZ develops effective solutions that offer people better prospects and sustainably improve their living conditions.

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