

I&P Education to Employment: two Senegalese higher education institutions join the portfolio

An innovative program aimed at an underrated sector

[March 23, 2022, Dakar, Senegal] – Launched in 2021, the [I&P Education to Employment](#) (IP2E) program, in association with Mastercard Foundation, starts the year **with two new partnerships with Senegalese higher education institutions.**

The program will support around 30 companies over 3 years and covers 3 countries: **Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Senegal.** The program targets companies operating for/in higher education or vocational training focused on youth employment, digitization and/or social inclusion. The partner companies will receive funding and technical assistance to support them in their digital transformation, their resilience and growth strategy as well as in the implementation of social inclusion mechanisms and employability measurement.



Senegal: an expanding education sector

The Senegalese higher education sector has been booming for the past twenty years, mainly in the capital, Dakar, where 90% of private institutions are located. However, the sector has been severely **weakened by the COVID-19 crisis**, especially outside Dakar.

I&P Education to Employment will support **two renowned institutions implanted in Senegal's main cities and which aim at decentralizing access to higher education :**

→ **The ISI Groupe** (Institut Supérieur d'Informatique) is a private educational group, founded in 1994. It welcomes 2,500 students, spread over 9 campuses. The group's ambition is to participate in the diversification of the training offer in Senegal and in the sub-region. Its educational curricula include 2- and 3-year courses in **the fields of computer engineering, networks and systems and management. Headed by Mr. Abdou SAMBE**, a former engineer. He has led ISI since its inception in 1994. His vision of education is based on the importance of the social approach, which explains the decentralization of its campuses throughout the country in search of a better social inclusion.

The partnership will allow the group (i) to implement online training courses, (ii) to promote the young graduates from the regional campuses employability through professional integration spaces establishment, (iii) to develop training offers adapted to the local labour markets.

→ **The ISM Ziguinchor School of Management** was founded in 2006 and is part of the ISM Group's network of 12 sites throughout Senegal. Its curricula include courses in various fields such as finance, law, human resources, management, etc. These programmes are open not only to students but also to young professionals. At the same time, in order to combat the school dropout rate in the region, ISM Ziguinchor **has launched the École des Savoirs-Faire (ESF)**, a technical and professional training

school, in 2019. The ESF enables secondary school dropouts or non-baccalaureate holders to acquire professional skills to facilitate their integration into the labour market. **The campus is directed by Georges Bernard NDEYE, an alumnus of the ISM group.**

Through its partnership with I&P Education to Employment, the school will be able to (i) make targeted investments in equipment, educational content, teacher training, (ii) perpetuate the scholarship programme, with a focus on women's empowerment.

"For this first breakthrough in Senegal, we are thrilled to welcome educational institutions that train tomorrow's workforce in a variety of fields. This diversity is essential, and the relevance of the IP2E program is partly based on its ability to understand the social and economic challenges of tomorrow's world of work." explained Koumba ANOUMA, Director of the IP2E Access Facility.

In addition to these Senegal-based companies, the I&P Education to Employment portfolio welcomed its first Ghanaian company, Codetrain, a coding bootcamp.

ABOUT INVESTISSEURS & PARTENAIRES



Investisseurs & Partenaires (I&P) is a pioneering impact investing group entirely dedicated to financing and supporting start-ups and medium-sized enterprises in Sub-Saharan Africa.

I&P was launched in 2002 by Patrice Hoppenot and has been directed by Jean-Michel Severino since 2011. The team of approximately 100 people is based in 10 African hubs (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Uganda and Senegal), in Paris and in Washington D.C. I&P has partnered with more than 170 companies operating in about 15 African countries in a wide range of sectors. I&P brings long-term financing as well as strategic, managerial and technical support.

I&P Education to Employment is one of the group's most recent developments: a hybrid financing program made of two pillars, an investment fund and an access fund, aims to support private institutions and companies in the educational ecosystem, and improve access to a relevant and valuable education on the continent. To learn more about our activities, please visit us at: <https://www.ietp.com/en>

ABOUT THE MASTERCARD FOUNDATION



The [Mastercard Foundation](https://www.mastercardfdn.org) works with visionary organizations to enable young people in Africa and in Indigenous communities in Canada to access dignified and fulfilling work. It is one of the largest, private foundations in the world with a mission to advance learning and promote financial inclusion to create an inclusive and equitable world. The Foundation was created by Mastercard in 2006 as an independent organization with its own Board of Directors and management. For more information on the Foundation, please visit: www.mastercardfdn.org

CONTACTS PRESSE

Koumba ANOUMA – Director Access Facility I&P Education to Employment – k.anouma@ietp.com
Fatoumata THIAM – Portfolio Manager I&P Education to Employment – f.thiam@ietp.com
Elodie YAHAUD – Communication Officer I&P Education to Employment – e.yahaud@ietp.com
James MCINTYRE – Program Manager Education and Learning Mastercard Foundation – jmcintyre@mastercardfdn.org