



project funded by the European Union

# ARCHIPELAGO

an African-European partnership  
for vocational training

## Press release

### **New EU-funded ARCHIPELAGO programme aims to improve employability and facilitate jobs creation through vocational and entrepreneurial training in the Sahel and Lake Chad region**

**On 10 December 2018, the European Commission, together with SEQUA, CPCCAF and EUROCHAMBRES, organise in Dakar the kick-off conference of the ARCHIPELAGO regional programme.**

Funded by the European Commission via the European Union Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF), ARCHIPELAGO is a 4-year programme whose main objective is to improve the employability and integration in the Sahelian labour market of youth, through targeted technical and vocational training measures. The programme aims at stimulating fast track skills acquisition in sectors with potential jobs creation, where skills gaps have been identified by the private sector. 12 countries in the Sahel and Lake Chad region (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Chad).

The programme is innovative in the sense that it is based on exchange of knowhow and the mobilization of African and European private sector organisations (chambers, entrepreneurial associations, training centres and other business support organizations). These twinning partnerships will be selected through international calls for proposals aiming to implement vocational and entrepreneurial training activities oriented towards the local labour market's needs. Each specific partnership consortia will be composed by key stakeholders from Europe and national eligible countries that may benefit of up to EUR 600,000 grants for a period of up to 36 months. The programme will organise at least 3 rounds of call for proposals based annual eligible countries in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

The programme has a duration of four years and its budget amounts to 15 million euros.

#### **Launching event in Dakar**

The launch of the ARCHIPELAGO programme will take place in Dakar on **10 December 2018**, in synergy with Annual General Assembly of the Permanent Conference of African and Francophone Consular Chambers (CPCCAF).

As part of the programme, it will include the participation of:

- Mr Mamadou TALLA, Minister of Vocational Training of Senegal (tbc)
- Mr. Essouhouna MEBA, President of CPCCAF
- M. Serigne MBOUP, President of UNCCIA (Chambers of Senegal)
- Mr. Pierre GOGUET, President of CCI France and Vice-President of EUROCHAMBRES
- Mrs. Cécile Tassin Pelzer, Head of Cooperation of the European Union in Senegal

#### **Additional information**

This programme is funded by the European Union and implemented by:





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- ARCHIPELAGO Press File [ARCHIPELAGO Launching Conference](#)
- [ARCHIPELAGO: an African-European TVET initiative](#)
- EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa: [dedicated website](#)

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