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GOUVERNEMENT DE GUINEE

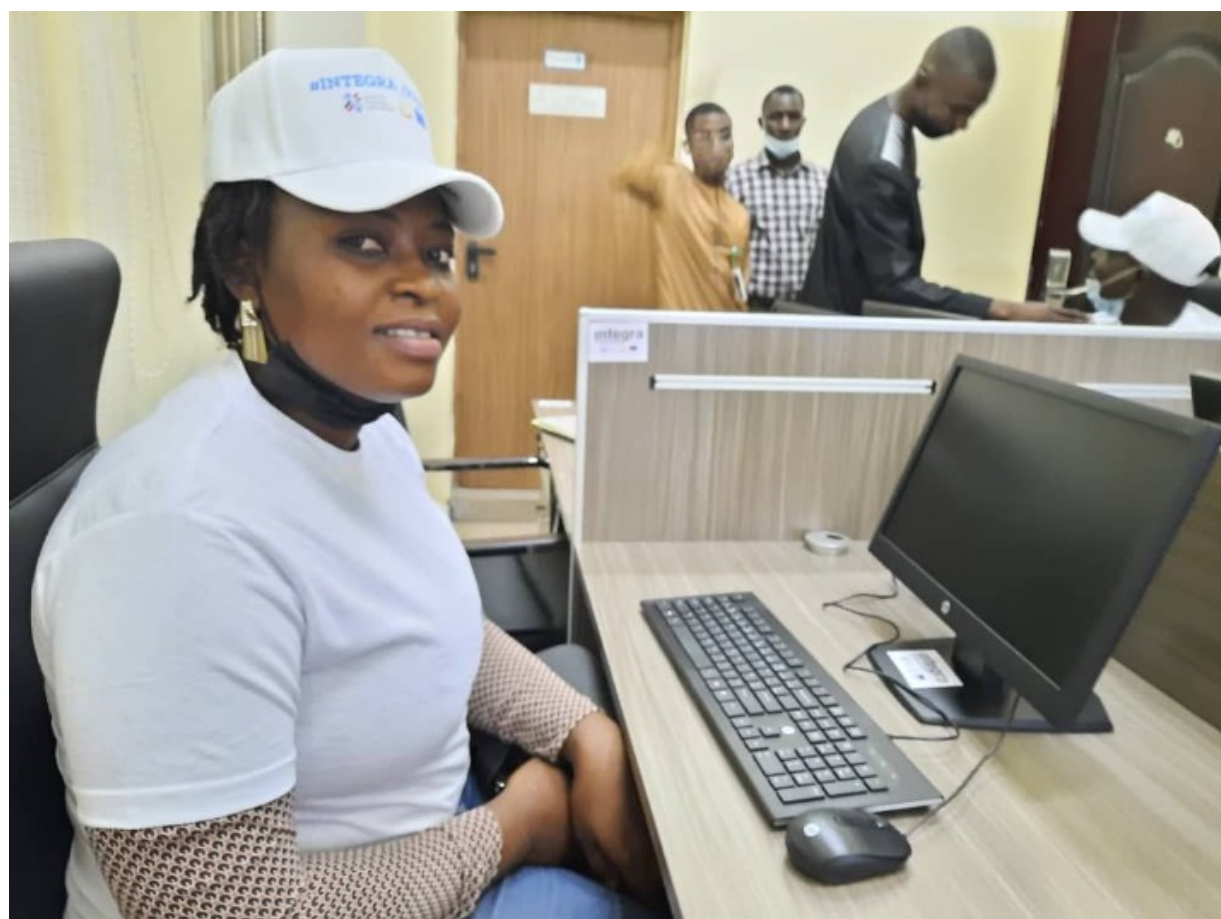


EUROPEAN UNION

INTEGRA NEWS FLASH

Issue #22

National Agency for Innovation and Digital Economy (ANIEN) installs new equipment for young entrepreneurs



After training 40 youth in developing USSD applications, ten participants secured an internship with the National Agency for Innovation and Digital Economy (ANIEN). As part of its commitment to boost the infrastructure of the national agency, the INTEGRA programme has delivered equipment to expand the agency's computer centre.

"The youth are working on concrete projects to help reduce the digital divide and allow citizens who do not have access to the internet to benefit from digital technology," said Noumouké Conde, Director General of ANIEN. The centre received ten office computers, ten cubic office spaces and a full office set to support its efforts in preparing youth to effectively join and integrate in the country's private sector.

With the additional computers and equipment ANIEN will improve the training and services it offers to Guinean youth to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in the digital economy.



35 youth enrolled in six-month incubation programme



Based in southern Guinea, the Federation of Fruit Growers (FEPAF-BG) is working to support young agripreneurs to develop their business ideas with support in theory and practice to fully-fledged farming ventures. After a proposal from the local INTEGRA focal point, the FEPAF-BG has launched an incubation programme for young entrepreneurs in the region.

"Through this course we can link theory and practice. This incubation course is the best opportunity for our integration to farming. Personally, I learned how to plant and maintain pineapples and this will be useful for my future project," said Mabinty Camara, a young trainee currently enrolled in the incubation programme.

Trainees will also receive support through mentorship to further develop their skills during the six-month programme. The INTEGRA programme also provided safety equipment to enhance the training sessions for youth, items included: waterproof coats, boots, gloves and glasses to emphasise the need for safety at work.

Building expertise in tailoring for Guinea's clothing industry



As part of its tripartite initiative with the mining company Global Alumina Corporation (GAC) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in the textile and garment sector, ITC's INTEGRA programme has completed its first three-week training for tailors. 31 youth from the Belly Kindi cooperative in Sangarédi gained a basic set of skills and techniques in sewing.

"We learned interesting things about the seven types of occupations for tailors that I didn't know. The training also allowed me to work on modern sewing machines that I did not know how to use before. I am now able to design an outfit while respecting all the standards," said Fatoumata Sylla, a young trainee from the tailoring industry.

Through the tripartite agreement, INTEGRA has also provided technical expertise to enhance the skills and capabilities offered through the GAC centre for prospective tailors. The centre was developed as an initiative to diversify the skillset and entrepreneurial opportunities for the mining town and company workers.

Guinea Office of Quality Control (ONCQ) streamlines operations to improve performance



With technical and financial support from ITC, Guinea's Office of Quality Control (ONCQ) has developed a website to provide its stakeholders with all relevant information on the quality control of consumable and non-consumable food products. Along with creating and hosting a new website, the ONCQ has also compiled a systems manual which covers administrative, financial and accounting operational procedures for the institution.

The introduction of these two features will improve the resources and operating capabilities of the ONCQ. "These two elements will greatly improve the general performance of the ONCQ and concurrently facilitate the attainment of its objectives," said Mariama Camara, Guinea's Minister of Trade.

Apart from information on food production, the ONCQ website will also provide users with information on processing, marketing, import and export in Guinea. The systems manual gives the ONCQ staff a detailed framework to perform tasks in line with Guinea's laws, the manual is also endorsed by the institution's management.

INTEGRA programme takes entrepreneurship and professional preparation training across six cities



240 youth entrepreneurs across six cities in Guinea attended workshops to improve their opportunities in securing a job. The training targeted returning migrants with the aim of ensuring their socio-professional integration as future employees and also introduce entrepreneurship as an additional possibility for income.

Trainees discovered their areas of strength and weaknesses and learned about existing opportunities to generate income as a small business owner as well as the country's legal processes for business to formally register.

"After this training, I was able to transform my business idea into reality. I now realise that you don't necessarily need a lot of money to start a business, I'm ready to take my destiny in own hands," said Siradjouma Camara, a training participant from the town of Boffa.

The four-day training course gave job seekers, project owners and returnee migrants the opportunity to gain professional skills and improve their business ideas to make them a reality.

A look at our entrepreneurs:

Meet Ibrahim Kaba, a young farmer determined to finance his small business through COVID-19



Since 2019, Ibrahim Kaba has worked closely with the INTEGRA programme and an assigned financial advisor to improve the business and financial management of Ibrahim Kaba's small business.

Based in Kankan, Soumankoi Light breeds poultry including chickens and guinea fowl as well as goats. With the support from the financial advisor, Kaba learned to set-up projects, implemented administrative restructuring, simplified his business accounting and management processes.

"INTEGRA's support enabled me to obtain a grant of 40,309,614 Guinean francs (\$4104), particularly through a business plan that was prepared and presented to a local financial institution. This is a great relief for us in this period of the COVID-19 pandemic", said KABA.

With the additional funds, the employer of five has managed to invest in new equipment, incubators, solar panels as well as rebuild his farm's fence after it was brought down by a flood. Kaba remains convinced Guinean youth can earn a good income from the livestock and poultry industry.

Meet Mamadou Oury Barry, a young agripreneur with big industrial dreams



Mamadou Oury Barry describes agripreneurship as a tangible way for young Guineans to earn income. Barry is convinced the key to increasing employment opportunities for the country's youth lies in improving the local expertise in

processing of agricultural products. "The potential is especially huge in the agricultural field, but we need to be on the ground," said Barry.

With this in mind, Barry established his small business EGUICOLOG-sarl to provide technical support, agricultural irrigation and engineers for chilli farmers. In 2020, Barry also took on an entrepreneurship and financing coach after attending a training course with the INTEGRA programme. The coach support Barry to tweak and refine his business strategies as well as his financial projections.

As a result, Barry managed to obtain 34,000,000 Guinean francs (\$3460) from the Integrated Agricultural Development Project (PDAIG), a fund set up by the World Bank to support MSMEs. Over the next three years, Barry's ambition for EGUICOLOG-sarl is to be the leading Guinean company specialising in the production, processing and marketing of chilli puree and powder.

Watch the National Network of Guinean Entrepreneurs (RNEG) Video

[National Network of Guinean Entrepreneurs \(RNEG\) Video](#)

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Upcoming Activities

- Labé, Boffa, Dubréka and Mamou - Training on sustainable agricultural entrepreneurship (permaculture)
- Kindia and Mamou - Training on computer graphics and web design

To participate in the INTEGRA Programme, please register at:

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INTEGRA GUINEE



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