

The workshop to design the Territorial Service Centres for Economic and Social Development in the Kaolack Region and Dakar Municipality in Senegal

In the framework of the collaboration ongoing in Senegal between the Integrated Program of the Economic and Social Development (PIDES) and the KIP International School, one of the main identified focuses of work is the creation of the Territorial Services Centres for the Economic and Social Development (CIDES). These Centres, which are inspired by the experiences of Local Economic Development Agencies, will be implemented with methods of research-action and will be oriented to provide concrete responses to the population based on the enhancement and coordination of local resources, and to build an effective service system for the economic inclusion with priority to women and youth.



The PIDES programme, that is part of the National Strategy of Social Protection of vulnerable groups, is promoted by the Ministry of Women, childhood and women's entrepreneurship, in the framework of the National Strategy of Social Protection. The programme aims at contributing to the identification of new paradigms for responding to poverty of vulnerable groups, with a special focus on their access to basic social services and economic opportunities.

In view of the implementation of CIDES in Kaolack Region and in the Municipality of Dakar, from the 17 to 18 February a first workshop was organised by the [ILSLEDA](#) programme and the Senegalese Ministry of Women, childhood and women's entrepreneurship, to promote the effective participation of all local actors in designing the CIDES. The workshop "How to design a CIDES: *why, what, for whom, how*" saw the active participation of more than 40 representatives of the main local actors of the two regions: local institutions, the Governors, Mayors, civil society, NGO, private sector, financial institutions, and universities.



During the workshop, the local actors, with the support of the ILSLEDA experts, shared the main concepts of local economic development, the strategy and the methodology for designing and managing a CIDES adapted to the Senegalese context with an inclusive and sustainable approach focused on women and young groups, and on human development perspective.



The working groups, composed of all local actors, allowed all participants to appropriate the process, the features, the activities, the roles of each actor, and the animation activities to implement the CIDES. The enthusiastic and active participation of Kaolack and Dakar communities, which showed their ownership and their commitment to continue with the research-action, convinced the KIP International School and the Senegalese national institutions on the feasibility of the CIDES,



and to engage with the second step of the CIDES creation process in Senegal, which consist on the formalisation of the two local CIDES Promoting Groups, their organization, and on carrying on the participatory services analysis (supply and demand) in the two regions.

For this purpose, a joint team was created, composed by KIP and Senegalese experts, to elaborate a six months action plan, based on the workshop results, which identify the principal phases to implement the Senegalese CIDES project.

The workshop represented an important opportunity to evaluate the possibility of the design and implementation of the Territorial Service Centres for the Economic and Social Development CIDES in the Kaolack Region and Dakar Municipality. By agreement of all the participants, the activities of research-action will continue with the creation of CIDES.

