



PRESS RELEASE

FORUM INVEST MALI 2017, THE INTERNATIONAL MEETING INVESTMENT MALI'S
EMERGENCE

TRIAL RUN, MASTER STROKE: NEARLY 1000 PARTICIPANTS FOR A WINNING BET ON MALI

BAMAOKO, 7 & 8 DECEMBER 2017 –Laïco l'Amitié Bamako Hotel

Bamako, on December 8th 2017

On December 7th and 8th, 2017, Mali hosted nearly 1,000 entrepreneurs, business and industry leaders for Small and Global Enterprises, Malian, international and sub-regional investors. Several rich panels and workshops, B2B and B2G meetings powered the exchanges during the two-day business meetings.

« A FORUM OF SOLUTIONS » ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT IBRAHIM BOUBACAR KEITA



This first run became a master stroke, to say the least. The first edition of the forum Invest in Mali has surpassed the most optimistic forecasts by achieving for the first time in Bamako the gathering of the Malian, sub-regional and international economic and financial elite.

His Excellency, Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, President of the Republic of Mali, Head of State, opened the forum, demonstrating the strong will of the Malian government in welcoming investors to "***make a winning bet on Mali together***".

"From far we come and far we will go" continued the President. He emphasized the strategic relevance of the investments in the realization of the medium-term ambitions of Mali's emergence and immediately affirmed the spirit of the Forum Invest in Mali : "forum of solutions". Before him, Mr. Konimba Sidibé, Minister of the Investment and Private Sector Promotion and after him, Mr. Moussa Ismaïla Toure, Executive Director of the Agency for the Promotion of Investments in Mali have alternately recalled the efforts of the Government to stabilize Mali's investment environment, the urgent need to diversify the Malian economy and a synergy of bold forces to "***develop a dense SME-SMI structure***".

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A CONCRETE PROGRAM ORIENTED ON BUSINESS MATCHING

Plenaries that presented the strategic framework for investment in Mali in terms of infrastructure, energy, agriculture and livestock - the four priority sectors – were followed by workshops and business matching sessions. Business partners, service providers, prospects, industry leaders, investment funds had the opportunity to exchange good practices and opportunities for synergies. "Business brings together, economic and business optimism make it possible to see Mali differently, to look at it as a country where anything is possible." a local industrialist says.

ENGAGED SUPPORT OF PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

The Invest in Mali forum gathered close to 1000 participants, favoured 420 B2B and B2G meetings, and mobilized a hundred or so Malian and international stakeholders. The first spin-off of 34 billion investments was announced at the end of the forum: the construction of a new cement factory in Diago with an investment of 20 billion CFA francs by Ciments et Matériaux du Mali SA (CMM), the project of construction of rural solar mobile power generation containers with an investment of 7 billion CFA francs from AfricaGreenTec, the establishment of a cardboard packaging production plant of an investment of 7 billion CFA francs raised by SAFALIM Printing and Packing Mali.

The event had the support of the institutional partners' commitment such as the World Bank through its Investment Climate 3 programs and the PACAM (Agro-Industrial Competitiveness Assistance Program in Mali), USAID, the American initiative Feed The Future, the African Development Bank (ADB), the Dutch Cooperation, the Kingdom of Denmark, the European Union, the International Organization of the Francophonie, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Mali (CCIM), the Malian Patronate (CNPM), as well as private and public sponsors: The CANAL + Group, Ecobank, ADS Solutions, DS Group, the Malian Company for Textile Development (CMDT), Orange, BNDA, the West African Bank of Development, Real Estate Agency, CIRA IMMO SAS, ERANOVE, Information and Communication Technologies Agency (AGETIC), ATEL, Atlantic Bank, B2GOLD, Sabunyuman Insurance, SONAVIE, International Bank Mali for Mali (BIM), Malian Solidarity Bank, CORIS Bank, Total, Bolloré Transport & Logistics, OMVS (Senegal River Development Organization) General Computech, DIAGO, AGEFAU, FOFY INDUSTRIES, GLOBAL Technologies), AFRIOLOG, the Private Sector Guarantee Fund, UBA, Bramali, SIFMA, CIMAF (Ciments d'Afrique), AMRTP- Malian Telecommunications Regulatory Authority and Posts, Cements and Materials of Mali (CMM), CIS CATERING, BDM (Malian Development Bank), Bank Of Africa, EDM, SONATAM.

As he was looking forward to the outcome of the event, Moussa Touré, Executive Director of the Agency for the Promotion of Investments in Mali says: "Invest in Mali is only the beginning of a new dynamic; we will reflect on the next edition at *Invest in Bamako*, *Invest in Gao*, *Invest in Kayes*, etc. Mali must become once again a country that democratizes investment. That is the winning bet on Mali! "

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ABOUT THE AGENCY FOR INVESTMENT PROMOTION IN MALI – API MALI

The Agency for the Promotion of Investments in Mali (API-MALI), is a Public Administrative Establishment (EPA), created in 2005 and put under the supervision of the Ministry in charge of investment. The API-MALI, through its one-stop shop, offers a single point of entry for all procedures of business creation, investor assistance and the issuance of licenses to practice and approvals to the code of Mali's investments.

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