

## Conclusion of the First Edition of the National Competition for Innovative Experiences of Local Development in Senegal



The CIDEL Programme is a result of the cooperation between the Senegalese and Italian Governments. In June 2014 the CIDEL Programme launched the first edition of the National Competition for Innovative Experiences of Local Development, in collaboration with the Universitas Programme of the KIP International School. Since this was a pilot experience in Senegal, the process took more than a year, from June 2014 to October 2015.

From the beginning, a Scientific Committee, consisting of representatives of almost all the Senegalese universities (Université Gaston Berger de Saint Louis, Université Aliou Diop de Bambey, Université Assane Seck de Ziguinchor, Ecole Supérieure d'Economie Appliquée, Laboratoires de Recherche sur les Transformations Economiques et Sociales - LARTES, GERAD) was involved. Prof. Sambou Ndiaye, professor and researcher in sociology at the Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, was selected as scientific coordinator.

During a first meeting of the Scientific Committee, which also included Regional Development Agencies (ARDs) and the decentralized technical services of the Ministry of Local Governance, Development and Regional Planning (MGLDAT), referred to as the Regional Services for Local Development Support (SRADL), the central elements of the competition were defined: the categories allowed to participate, the selection criteria, the priority fields of activity of the experiences, the mechanism of selection and the role of universities.



After this first meeting, an information campaign with visits throughout the country was organized, to ensure that the competition mechanisms were clearly endorsed at regional level and that the information was shared with the population. Upon the deadline for the submission of applications, 106 experiences in the fourteen Senegalese regions were submitted. Meanwhile, in each region a committee was structured to select one experience submitted by a Community-Based Organization (OCB), and one by a Local Institution (LI). In doing so, once the process of regional pre-selection was over, the Scientific Committee had at its disposal a total of twenty-eight experiences - two per region - for the next phase of capitalization.

In this phase, most of the universities that were part of the Scientific Committee participated, particularly the Université Gaston Berger de Saint Louis, the Université Aliou Diop de Bambey, the Université Assane Seck de Ziguinchor and the Ecole Supérieure d'Economie Appliquée (ESEA) of the University of Dakar. Each University chose a number of regions and made available students and professors to carry out and supervise the work of research and capitalization of the experiences from these regions. In early January 2015 the group participated in a three-day training workshop in Thiès, during which the CIDEL and the Scientific Coordinator explained the activity, the expected work and participatory research methodologies, providing students with a guide, a template for conducting case studies and a research kit to use in the field.

Each student was assigned a region, for a total of two experiences to be documented, and each of them spent two months in the field, under the supervision of the Competition Coordinator and the professors who also personally visited the experiences. After a period of field research, a capitalization report for every experience was prepared. These reports were used as basis for the final stage of national selection, carried out by the Scientific Committee in its entirety. The final selection took place at the end of April 2015, during a three-day workshop in which every experience was evaluated by three professors in order to determine the final score, which then produced the final list.



The results of the Scientific Committee were subsequently validated by a MGLDAT internal working group before they were officially sent to the participants at the regional level. The winning experiences were the following:

- Revalorisation et promotion du Fonio précuit;
- Gestion de l'environnement et des ressources naturelles;
- Expérience de développement territorial: le cas de l'Union Interprofessionnelle des Agro-Pasteurs de l'Arrondissement de Rao (IUAPR);
- Valorisation du bas fond de Ndinderling: culture du riz en hivernage et du maraichage en contre saison;
- Expérience de lutte contre la malnutrition: la culture de la spiruline;
- Système de gestion des ordures ménagères: l'expérience de la commune de Sandiara.

Once published, the winning experiences benefited from a high visibility at national and international level, thanks to the production and dissemination of communication material developed for each of them: a presentation brochure, a video and a poster illustrating the experience and its most relevant aspects. This material was also used during the participation of a Senegalese delegation, led by M. Abdoulaye Diouf Sarr, Minister of MGLDAT, at Expo Milan 2015 in Italy. In fact, thanks to the collaboration between the CIDEL Programme and the KIP International School, these Senegalese experiences were presented from the 27th to the 30th of July in the KIP Pavilion at Expo Milan 2015.

Back in Dakar, on October 13, 2015, the official award ceremony was organized, attended by the Minister Abdoulaye Diouf Sarr and Dr. Pasqualino Procacci, Director of the Office for Development Cooperation of the Italian Embassy in Senegal.

The publication of the experiences as case studies in the international electronic journal *Universitas Forum*, managed by the Universitas Programme of the KIP International School, will be the final stage of the process. These case studies can thus be used as teaching material for university courses related to local development in Senegal and in other countries.

In addition, a new meeting of the Scientific Committee will be organized soon in Dakar, to examine the future replicability and sustainability of this experience.

**MINISTÈRE DE LA GOUVERNANCE LOCALE, DU DÉVELOPPEMENT ET DE L'AMÉNAGEMENT DU TERRITOIRE (MGLDAT)**  
 Cellule de planification et d'évaluation technique des programmes et projets  
 Programme: Connaissance, Innovation et Développement Local (CIDEL)

**CONCOURS NATIONAL SUR LES PRATIQUES INNOVANTES EN DEVELOPPEMENT LOCAL**

**Cibles :**  
 • Les collectivités locales  
 • Les organisations communautaires de base

**Critères de sélection**  
 • Caractère innovant de la pratique  
 • Ancrage dans la communauté  
 • Viabilité / durabilité de la pratique

**Champs prioritaires des pratiques**  
 • Accès aux services sociaux de base  
 • Développement économique local  
 • Gouvernance territoriale

**Modalités pratiques**  
 • Une pré sélection des 2 meilleures pratiques au niveau de chaque région par un comité régional. Une CL et une OCB seront pré sélectionnées par région  
 • Une sélection des 3 meilleures pratiques au niveau national par le comité scientifique du concours. 3 CL et 3 OCB seront primées au niveau national

**Dates de dépôt :** du 15 août au 15 septembre 2014 au niveau des ARD ou des SRADL de chaque région.

**Contacts :**  
 77 6903836 ou 70 6525458  
 concourscidel@gmail.com  
[www.coperstion@centrisa.sn](http://www.coperstion@centrisa.sn)

Universités Partenaires :

