

CHOOSE AFRICA

THE FRENCH INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT START-UPS AND MSMEs in AFRICA

POSITIVE RESULTS FOR THE INITIATIVE AT 31/12/2021

€3bn

of financing committed for start-ups and MSMEs

€2,525m

525m Access to credit for MSMEs

€470m

Equity investments in start-ups and SMEs

€45m

Technical assistance

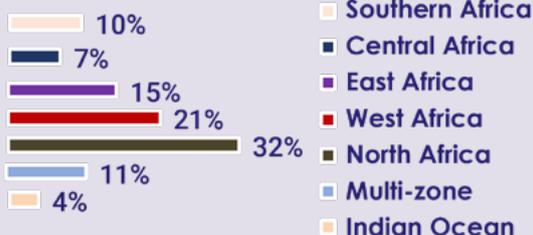
1.5 million
DIRECT AND
INDIRECT JOBS

26,000
BENEFICIARY
COMPANIES*

- Over 26,000 companies and several tens of thousands of microentrepreneurs financed by the loans and investments already allocated to our Choose Africa partners
- Some 2,500 companies will benefit from technical assistance

* Impact data estimated ex ante

CONTINENTWIDE DEPLOYMENT



CHOOSE AFRICA
RESILIENCE

€780M IN RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS

- €605m to facilitate access to loans during the crisis
- €110m of equity
- €65m for players in financial inclusion
- Targeted technical assistance

STRONG KNOCK-ON EFFECT



The Resilience component is France's contribution to the effort to support MSMEs affected by the crisis, which several development banks, including PROPARCO, committed to during the first "Finance in Common" summit in Paris in 2020.

At the end of 2021, over \$5.5bn had been committed by about 20 international institutions.

Focus on some projects supported by Choose Africa



TUNISIA

MSMEs – Multi-sector

With a €15m loan to Tunisie Leasing in 2019 to support its credit activity, PROPARGO is facilitating access to long-term financing in local currency for Tunisian MSMEs. For example, the market gardening company Select Plant has benefited from TND 496,000 of financing to develop its nursery.

[Find out more](#)



SENEGAL

SMEs – Agribusiness

In 2020, the agro-processing company GADE-GUI benefited from an FCFA 60m loan from COFINA Senegal, a mesofinance institution supported by PROPARGO. GADE-GUI employs 8 people and up to 100 seasonal workers, mainly women.

[Find out more](#)

DRC

PME – Energies renouvelables

Nuru develops and operates solar mini-grids in North Kivu. The 1.35 MW mini-grid deployed by Nuru in Goma is one of the main mini-grids in Sub-Saharan Africa. Through a direct investment of €1m in 2021, PROPARGO is contributing to improving access to clean and accessible electricity for households and companies.

SOUTH AFRICA

MSMEs – Transport



The minibus taxi industry is a key sector in transport in South Africa. A million people rely on it for their daily travel. PROPARGO is helping SA TAXI finance the development of microentrepreneur taxis. Between 2018 and 2020, PROPARGO allocated a \$10m loan and provided technical assistance for the implementation of protection measures for drivers and users during the Covid-19 pandemic. The example of Theresa Tlometsane, a taxi owner.

[Find out more](#)

BURKINA FASO

Start-ups – Craft industries

In 2019, K-Risme, a company which creates stationery objects and loincloth fabric, benefited from €15,000 of financing from AFD's AFIDBA program. The AFIDBA (AFD for Inclusive and Digital Business in Africa) program supports and finances inclusive and digital start-ups in four countries: Burkina Faso, Ghana, Morocco and Senegal.

CAMEROON

SMEs – Food industry

Coeur Fortune is a food and drink store in the city of Bafoussam in Cameroon. In 2021, the company benefited from a €45,000 loan from Société Générale Cameroon through the Choose Africa Resilience guarantee (which covers 80% of the loan).

KENYA

Start-ups – Services

Ilara Health markets modern and low-cost diagnostic devices in clinics and hospitals in Africa. In 2021, the start-up raised \$3.75m for its expansion through an operation conducted by TLcom Capital, a fund invested in by PROPARGO.

ZAMBIA

Micro-entrepreneurs – Multi-sector

AB Bank Zambia is the only bank dedicated to financing microentrepreneurs and SMEs in Zambia. In 2019, it benefited from an equity investment by AFD Group (€1.8m) and again in 2021 due to the Covid-19 crisis. AB Bank has also benefited from technical assistance from PROPARGO for the introduction of digital credit and savings services for rural dwellers. AB has some 15,000 borrowers, including Dorothy Kasombe, a farmer, who borrowed a total of \$4,850.

[Find out more](#)

MADAGASCAR

SMEs – Hotel industry

In 2021, Olympe de Bemaraha Hotel, which has been affected by the Covid-19 crisis, benefited from a €440,000 investment loan from Société Générale Madagasikara, a loan 80% covered by the Choose Africa Resilience Guarantee.

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