



Boosting the professional profile of business creators and jobseekers

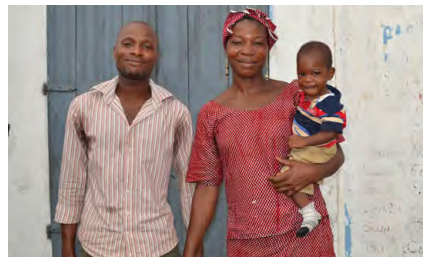
TOGO

- 7.3 million inhabitants
- 63th on the HDI*
- 39% unemployment rate
- 54% of the population live on less than \$1.90/day**

*Human Development Index
**Source: hdr.undp.org



BACKGROUND



Jobs, a national necessity

Unemployment affects 39% of the population and the majority survive by means of the informal economy. On the one hand, this has an adverse effect on individual and family stability; on the other, it adversely affects the country's growth. The Government has, therefore, made employment a priority in its national development plan. This strategic document emphasises "a structural transformation of the economy, for a strong, sustainable and creative increase in decent jobs". Any action to support the national effort is welcome, especially ideas aimed at young people, most of whom are under-employed or in informal employment.

MISSION



Supporting Togolese youth towards decent and sustainable employment

In February 2018, Entrepreneurs du Monde launched a programme to support entrepreneurship and employability. This programme is entitled MIAWODO ("let's work together" in the local language). Its mission is to contribute to the economic development of vulnerable populations through the creation and development of very small businesses (VSBs) and access to sustainable employment. MIAWODO is aimed at non-qualified and unskilled populations, especially young people, who live in very poor urban areas, in Lomé and/or suburban areas. The team focuses on projects with a social or environmental impact.

MILLENNIUM GOALS



METHODOLOGY



The MIAWODO team listens to beneficiaries and steers them towards the "employability" or the "entrepreneurship" component. The beneficiaries then participate in training sessions: writing a CV, preparing for interviews or making a business plan. Throughout their course, they are supported individually until they find sustainable employment or set up their own business.

SUPPORT



Like all the programmes it establishes and supports, Entrepreneurs du Monde provides a structure and supports MIAWODO on all fronts (legal, financial, methodology, human and financial resources, management, reporting, etc.), with the ultimate aim of becoming an operationally and financially independent local legal entity. The team has run its first training sessions for partner organisations and is currently preparing to set up a business school.



FLORENT An electrical engineer who has already been promoted!

After my bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, I had a lot of trouble finding a job. My mother, an Assilassimé beneficiary*, pointed me in the direction of MIAWODO. With the support of my employability assistant, I was taken on by a company. MIAWODO training sessions helped me to quickly gain the respect of my employer. After two months in the job, I was promoted to Head of Building Audit. At the same time, I established a small business installing, maintaining and troubleshooting building electricity, power grids and air conditioning. This enables me to generate additional income. I'm now secure for the future!

* the Lomé social microfinance institution established and supported by Entrepreneurs du Monde.



100%

OF BENEFICIARIES ARE UNDER THE AGE OF 35

FOCUS



An international workshop on the themes of entrepreneurship and employability

This workshop brought together Entrepreneurs du Monde teams from Haiti, Senegal and Burkina Faso, along with a number of technical and financial partners. The European Institute for Cooperation and Development (IECD) also talked about its training provision. The plenary sessions were punctuated by field visits to entrepreneurs and start-up incubators.



Practical and varied themes

The topics discussed during the workshop covered the requirements of Entrepreneurs du Monde's programmes:

- identification and selection of jobseekers and project leaders
- support and follow-up for these applicants and project leaders
- boosting their skills

At the same time, working sessions took place within and between the programmes to enable participants to share experiences and exchange best practices.



KEY FIGURES

	No. of people supported	No. of people trained in entrepreneurship	No. of people trained in accessing formal employment	No. of people who have secured an internship or employment
2018	259	75	93	24
Objectives 2019	420	90	120	45

HIGHLIGHTS



A dynamic and skilful team

The MIAWODO team is now made up of a Development & Partnerships Manager; two support officers, a training assistant and an accountant. Thanks to their accumulated experience, these young employees are able to gain the trust of the jobseekers and project leaders they work with.



An active strategy

The team have met the main entrepreneurship and employability stakeholders: business incubators, start-up promoters, training centres and two Togolese State organisations: FAIEJ (Support Fund for Initiative and Youth Employment) and PROFOPEJ, the youth vocational training and employment programme, led by GIZ.

OUTLOOK



Targeting promising sectors

The team intends to conduct a study to improve understanding of promising sectors and the Togolese employment market. It has already identified a strong need in the field of solar energy and intends to open a centre in the north of the country to train young people in solar energy and support them in setting up very small businesses or boosting their employability in this area.



Strengthening partnerships

The team will strengthen its partnerships with companies to facilitate access to decent jobs and develop synergies between young people in Togo and the private sector. It will also develop its range of services so as to become more financially independent. In addition, to meet the funding needs of entrepreneurs, MIAWODO intends to develop a customised range of services in partnership with Assilassimé, the social microfinance institution established and supported in Lomé by Entrepreneurs du Monde..

PARTNERS



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