



Building the capacities of agricultural students in entrepreneurship and leadership to improve their professional insertion

Summary

This project entitled "Building the capacities of agricultural students in entrepreneurship and leadership to improve their professional insertion" aims at supporting selected 100 young students in the last academic year from the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi (FSA/UAC) to implement their agro processing business ideas through training, coaching, mentoring and monitoring by the University of Abomey-Calavi Foundation. This is a way to spread entrepreneurship and self-employment culture within young agronomic community of the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi. The project is implemented by three institutions, namely the University of Abomey-Calavi Foundation, the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences and the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) during a time period of two years within the framework set up by the Business Incubators Program called "UAC Startup Valley". After two years, they must transform their business ideas into successful agribusiness enterprises. Through this project, University of Abomey-Calavi will integrate entrepreneurship education in curricula, transform the results of academic agronomic research into marketable products and reduce the rate of the unemployment in Benin.

The overall goal of this project is to increase the rate of successful self-employment of the graduates of the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi through the improvement of their entrepreneurship and leadership capacities.

Specifically this project aims to:

- i) given an entrepreneurial and managerial education through a learning by doing approach who transforms their personalities, develops their leadership and increases their creativity
- ii) provide proximity coaching to increase the rate of survival enterprises of the students of FSA through entrepreneurship and leadership.

Target Groups

The target groups in this project are the graduates and students at the end of academic years from the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi who have innovative business ideas in agribusiness. They will shape in groups of 5 people to apply following a framework of formulation of business idea. The beneficiaries will be trained coached and mentored by the accredited trainers by the program UAC Startup Valley of the University of Abomey-Calavi Foundation (FUAC) and African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN).

Result Areas

There are two primary result areas in this project

Result Area 1: 100 Young agricultural students of Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi (FSA/UAC) will be selected and trained in entrepreneurship and leadership

Result Area 2: 100 Young agricultural students of Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi (FSA/UAC) will be coached to create and develop innovative agribusiness enterprises with high potential for creating decent and sustainable jobs.

Key Activities

- Sensitization, preselection and selection of the students and graduates from Faculty of Agronomic Sciences for agribusiness idea;
- Three technical workshops of entrepreneurial culture and project formulation;
- Three technical workshops to do the feasibility and profitability studies of their projects;

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Project coordinator
University of Abomey-Calavi
Foundation (FUAC)

Project ID: RU/2018/RECAP/06

Partners

Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi (FSA/UAC)

African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN)

Project Duration: 24 Months

Start Date: 01 March 2018

Total Budget: USD 50, 000





- Realization of the prototypes of the products;
- Supporting to do fundraising;
- Training in management of SME;
- Coaching, mentoring and monitoring enterprises.

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