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MALI INVESTMENT CLIMATE (IC3)

The Mali Investment Climate 3 (IC3) Program, implemented by the World Bank Group, seeks to strengthen the role of the private sector in growing the country’s economy. The focus is on promoting investment in key sectors and increasing the competitiveness of the private sector. By promoting regulatory reforms, the project aims to improve the business climate and make it more attractive for investment.

COMPETITIVE AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENT SECTORS

The project supports the country’s national Investment Promotion Agency (API-Mali) to improve its ability to promote and facilitate new investments. Through an in-depth assessment, target sectors have been identified that offer a competitive advantage for investment: energy, livestock and agriculture. Detailed sector presentations are being developed to strengthen investor outreach efforts. As part of the API-Mali’s overarching investment promotion campaign, an international investor forum is planned for 2017. The project will support the government to promote this event. Technical assistance will be provided to develop effective investment promotion materials, and rebuild the country’s post-conflict image.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PLATFORMS

The project also supports the Government of Mali to streamline and improve public-private dialogue platforms aimed at improving the business environment and unlocking investment constraints in priority sectors. To increase private sector participation in public projects, a private-public partnership (PPP) strategy and legal framework is being finalized to provide clear guidance on PPPs as an effective method of procurement. The government is also working to increase the transparency of the existing incentive regimes. Furthermore, the IC3 project is supporting API-Mali to carry out a detailed mapping of existing incentives and strengthening API-Mali’s capacity to administer and grant the incentives.

IC3 GOALS

Over \$2.4, 7-year (2015-2022), project cycle, IC3 will:

- Improve business indicators and performance in the World Bank *Doing Business* report;
- Increase transparency and awareness of tax laws and design tax appeal system to resolve taxpayer issues;
- Support competition regulatory framework reforms to increase the effectiveness and transparency of the regulatory framework thereby reducing the cost burden to the private sector;
- Provide technical assistance to improve the operations in commercial courts to simplify and modernize tools, increase transparency through the development of a website to publish all decisions;
- Modernize commercial database registry in line with the Organization for the Harmonization of African Business Law’s (OHADA) guidelines and international best practices, establishing better access to credit for Small and Medium Enterprises, and help foreign investors find reliable business partners.