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**Conférence Permanente des Chambres Consulaires  
Africaines et Francophones (CPCCAF)**

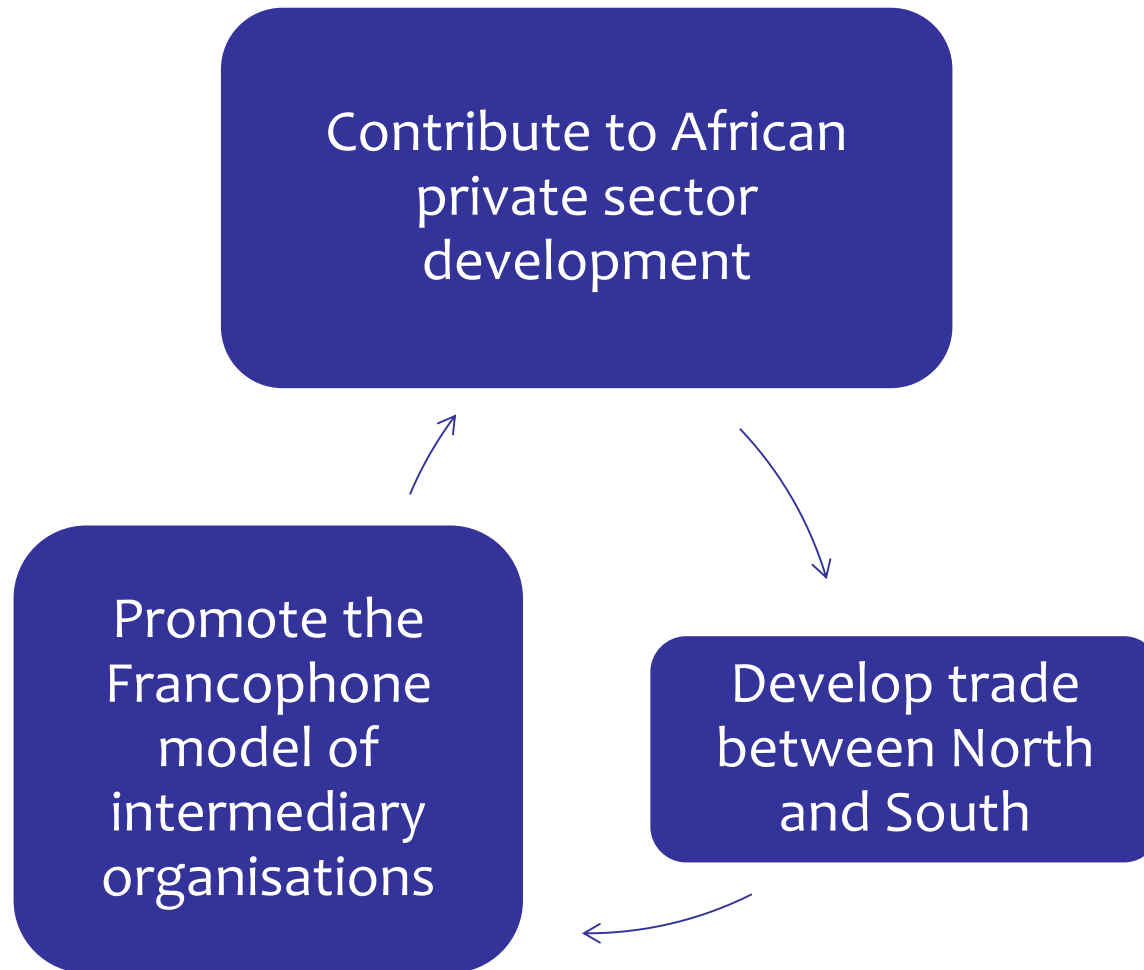
**A few best practices in private sector development**

Policy Forum on Development (PFD)  
Management Centre Europe, Brussels  
March 21, 2017

# What is CPCCAF ?

- ❖ An association of African and French-speaking Chambers (commerce, industry, crafts, agriculture...)
- ❖ Created in 1973, it is the largest structured network of economic operators in French-speaking Africa
- ❖ Comprising 560 Chambers from 29 countries (25 African countries : North, West, Central, East and Indian Ocean))
- ❖ An executive Board of 12 members from European and African Chambers. Current Chairman: Essohouna MEBA, CCI Togo
- ❖ Partners: Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Francophonie (OIF), Eurochambres, International Trade Center (ITC), European Enterprise Network (EEN)...

# What is CPCCAF role in development ?



## Programmes:

- Trade fairs
- Technical assistance: private sector, trade, competitive intelligence...
- Governance and SMEs advocacy
- Twinning programmes...

# Compagnonnage consulaire

3-year twinning projects between French and African intermediary organisations (IOs)

IOs in Congo, Cameroon, Guinea, Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo benefit from long-term (and relatively cheap) technical assistance from European chambers

3 core aspects:

- Assistance to business development services,
  - Technical and vocational education and training (TVET)
  - Management and governance
- ... always according to the local private sector's needs

# Compagnonnage consulaire: main results

Technical Assistance missions on how to:

- improve general/sectoral business services assistance (e.g. agribusiness/construction/catering)
- adapt to local economic operators' needs
- develop training courses on export standards, business models, entrepreneurship
- review and improve the overall management and governance structure
- ...

# Compagnonnage consulaire: main results

- North-South and South-South cooperation (e.g. Burkina Faso in Guinea and Cameroon, Togo)
- Scalability and long-term support (beyond project)
- Services and know-how are replicable to territorial branches and to other countries
  
- « Le compagnonnage consulaire nous a fait gagner 15 ans »  
(Didier Sylvestre Mavouenzela, Chairman CCIAM Pointe Noire)

# Project in the making: Archipelago

- Objectives: tackle poverty and refugee crisis by developing local TVET resources adapted to private sector needs
- Partners: CPCCAF members, SEQUA, Eurochambres...
- 3-year twinning programmes to develop operational, professional and technical training programmes in 10 West and Central African countries
- Using European and North African IOs' know-how in setting up training centres and developing ad-hoc courses

# Project in the making: African bridges

- Objectives: contribute to the economic development of African countries, allowing their MSMEs to achieve better integration into regional and global trade
- Partners: CPCCAF members and International Trade Center - ITC,... OIF (?)
- 4-year twinning programmes to develop MSMEs export potential, using competitive intelligence tools and services provided by the network of local chambers
- Creating partnerships (thru B2B conventions) between European and African enterprises



# The role of intermediary organisations for development

- ❑ Chambers' strengths: institutional support, cover SMEs and microenterprises on the territory, good governance and efficient services are possible
- ❑ Weaknesses: lacking HR and financial resources, a certain disconnection from the ground...
- ❑ Twinning provides indirect micro-level support to the local private sector, supports key organisations, and opens up partnerships (World Bank, IFC, AfDB)
- ❑ If SMEs are engine for growth, IOs are transmission belt
- ❑ → Recognized role in the intra-ACP cooperation (11<sup>th</sup> EDF)

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# Thank you for your attention

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