## **Dutch Good Growth Fund**



## Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Dutch Good Growth Fund

## **CIPMEN**



## DGGF supports CIPMEN - the first business incubator in Niger

DGGF's Seed Capital and Business Development (SC&BD) facility is supporting CIPMEN (Centre Incubateur Des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises du Niger), the first business incubator in Niger and one of the first in Sahel region that provides preincubation and incubation services to local entrepreneurs and start-ups.

Launched in 2014 through a public-private partnership dedicated to promote entrepreneurship in the country, CIPMEN was created with a main objective to support companies operating in ICT, renewable energy, environment and agribusiness sectors. Starting with supporting a handful of companies in Niamey, CIPMEN has now capacity to assist directly about 50 SMEs per year including in three out of the eight regions of the country. In just over 4 years, CIPMEN has supported over 200 companies with pre-incubation, and incubated over 100 companies. With DGGF support CIPMEN will be able to further deepen its presence in the regions, and extend their product offer, addressing the main challenges identified in the fragile local entrepreneurial ecosystem of Niger - access to added value creating services for agribusinesses, and access to talent for local ICT companies.

The support of SC&BD facility will allow CIPMEN to address these challenges by establishing a new high-value acceleration program that will support agribusinesses, and setting up a vocational training program that will train youngsters to become quality IT professionals - and shall facilitate the development of a more conducive ecosystem for SMEs in Niger.

