



## Launch of first fund of funds for French-speaking Africa

The Edmond de Rothschild Foundations partner with Investisseurs & Partenaires to launch first fund of funds for French-speaking Africa.

*Investisseurs & Partenaires (I&P) is a family of investment funds with a special focus on African businesses. Since 2002, I&P has closed over 60 deals in 15 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. These investments have helped a vibrant community of local entrepreneurs to flourish, creating thousands of jobs and more broadly contributing to the development of socially and environmentally responsible economies. I&P actively partners with investees, bringing its strategic, financial and management expertise to bear on growing Africa businesses.*

I&P has just closed a 10M EUR first round for IPDEV2, an ambition impact fund of funds targeted to SMEs in French-speaking Africa. Three funds in Niger, Burkina Faso and Senegal are already operational and a further seven will be set up in the coming years in countries across Central and West Africa.

The first round saw participation from 15 investors, including foundations, development agencies, and individuals, all dedicated to supporting the emergence of the entrepreneurial ecosystem and broad, sustainable development on the Africa continent. Equally critical to the success of the local funds is participation from African investors whose capital will equal that of Western investors, complemented by their strong market knowledge and access to deal flows. IPDEV2 is set to become a powerful network, forging synergies and sharing knowledge across the locally integrated national funds.

In a powerful move, the Edmond de Rothschild Foundations and Edmond de Rothschild Private Equity have both invested in the venture, highlighting IPDEV2's unique positioning and appeal to family foundations and classical investors.

"IPDEV2 is an exceptional opportunity to bring our philanthropic savoir faire to bear on the financial expertise of Edmond de Rothschild Private Equity and I&P creating an innovative model for impact investing in French-speaking Africa," said Firoz Ladak, CEO of the Edmond de Rothschild Foundations.