A social innovation programme for French-speaking universities

In order to initiate the necessary social and environmental transformations, the ACTIF programme and its network of partners support French-speaking universities in reinforcing their role as operators of the global development of societies in the framework of the 17 SDGs of the 2030 Agenda.

ACTIF is a programme of the Francophone University Agency (AUF)

Objectives:

- Contributing to reinforce the role of French-speaking universities as operators of the global development of societies through social innovation.
- Contributing to reinforce the skills and role of higher education and research institutions in achieving the 17 SDGs.
- Contributing to accompany universities towards social responsibility and the necessary transition to meet new societal and environmental challenges.
- Participating in the development of social entrepreneurship and social and solidarity economy (SSE) through the implementation of support actions and positive impact projects within French-speaking universities.
- Contributing to identify, promote and develop innovative and responsible initiatives within French-speaking universities.
- Encouraging and co-constructing, with universities and partners, innovative and responsible solutions to meet the needs and challenges of tomorrow's higher education.
- Creating a network of French-speaking social and responsible innovation, by effectively coordinating its actions, members and partners.

Target:

French-speaking universities, students and teachers, local and international partners in the sectors of social and solidarity economy (SSE) and social innovation.

Countries of intervention:

All the French-speaking countries.

The role of AUF:

AUF mobilizes its member universities and its partners in order to co-construct the objectives, the network, the actions, the tools and the achievements of the ACTIF programme. The programme is coordinated by the networks department of AUF, based in Paris, Montreal, Algiers and Yaoundé.

Considered as a key project of the AUF, the ACTIF programme page on the AUF website is here.
Operational partners:

- Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
- Pepite France/FNEGE
- Europe and Foreign Affairs Ministry, France (MEAE)
- Office franco-québécois de la Jeunesse (OFQJ)
- Université virtuelle Environnement et Développement durable (UVED)
- Cap Digital / Futur.e.s in Africa
- Centre de recherche interdisciplinaire (CRI)
- Convergences
- International Association of Universities (AIU)
- Universities of the Commonwealth Association (ACU)
- UNRIC (ONU)
- PNUD
- UNESCO
- ONUDEC
- SATT network (Réseaux de Sociétés d’Accélération du Transfert de Technologies)
- Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)
- Réseau de recherche sur l’Innovation (RRI)
- SoScience
- Institut Français
- CFI Médias (2020)
- Arab NGO network of Development (ANND) (2020)
- Pitchworthy (2020)
- Bond’Innov / Afric’innov
- Fanaka.com
- La Fabrique
- Lab’ess
- Groupe SOS Pulse
- Sparknews
- Agorize
- Make It Real
- B&L Evolution
- Impact Campus
- Utopies / Les Trophées des Campus responsables
- Green Gown Awards
- CIRSES
- Enactus
- SchooLab
- MakeSense
- RefEDD
- RéUniFEDD
- FECODD
- Sindup
- Sulitest
- Member Universities of AUF
Main achievements:

❖ Collaborative intelligence workshops are conducted with universities and AUF regional offices on the 5 continents.
❖ Social innovation projects are co-created with universities, actors and partners of the socio-economic world, some of which are oriented towards gender equality.
❖ Social innovation project leaders are identified and supported in their projects development. (Safircampus and Inticampus programmes).
❖ Social incubators are created and/or supported within universities (Inticampus programme).
❖ Training in the domain of social innovation and the SDGs is carried out locally in French-speaking regions, particularly for students and teachers.
❖ Advocacy actions are carried out to position higher education and research at the center of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 SDGs.
❖ A French-speaking network in the domain of social innovation is gradually being created and promoted.
❖ Major events end meetings in the domain of social innovation are organised, bringing together AUF’s actors and partners.
❖ A responsible francophone innovation label was created to identify and promote francophone initiatives in the domain of social innovation.
❖ A think tank was created in order to think the university of the future and be a strategic tool of advocacy for tomorrow’s sustainable and inclusive university (UniLab).
❖ A strategic monitoring of innovation and the SDGs at the university has been set up upstream of the projects.
❖ Resources, a platform and funds are made available through the ACTIF programme.
❖ An « education for justice » component (SDG16) and a « gender equality » component (SDG5) are developed to complete the programme.

ACTIF programme’s brochure here.

Interactive map of the actions carried out and in progress in 2019/2020 here

Review of the collaborative intelligence workshops here

Annual review 2019/2020 of the programme here.