

PRESS RELEASE



UNDP and Societe Generale Ghana PLC partner to promote innovations and inclusive entrepreneurship in Ghana

Accra, 1 June 2022 - The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Societe Generale Ghana PLC (SG Ghana) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to encourage and support innovators, especially small businesses led by youth, women, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) to scale up innovations towards sustainable development.

The partnership aims to leverage the expertise and resources of both institutions to provide a tailored programme including capacity building, mentorship, business to business matching, and pitching masterclasses to enable easy access to investors and markets for products and services.

“Partnership plays a critical role in accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 and UNDP is committed to working with the Private Sector and all actors to unlock SDG aligned investments for greater impact. This partnership is very important as Société Générale joins forces with UNDP to support national actions to expand employment opportunities for youth, women, and People with Disabilities for shared prosperity”, noted Angela Lusigi, UNDP Resident Representative in Ghana.

As part of the partnership, the UNDP Accelerator Lab, SG Innov8 Hub and SG Home of Business will be leading efforts to co-create opportunities for innovators to thrive and scale-up to penetrate markets beyond the shores of Ghana.

“This partnership with the UNDP Accelerator Lab which has the unique expertise in working with grassroots innovators will not only broaden the Bank’s reach but also its ability to support new initiatives, SMEs, young people, persons with disabilities and innovative startups”, said the Managing Director of SG Ghana PLC, Hakim Ouzzani.

The partnership will leverage UNDP’s expertise in working with grassroots innovators, and SG Ghana’s expertise in supporting businesses and entrepreneurs. Under the agreement, UNDP through its Accelerator Lab, and SG Ghana through its Innov8 Hub and the SG Home of Business, will run the Inclusive Entrepreneurship partnership, taking a pipeline of innovators through capacity building, free use of SG Ghana’s Home of Business and Innov8 Hub services. Participating entrepreneurs will include a selection of the 22 grassroots innovators who received funding and technical support through the UNDP Accelerator Lab COVID-19 Innovation [Challenge](#) and other innovators and entrepreneurs selected by UNDP.

It is expected that at least 50% of innovators supported will gain increased traction to scale up their innovations.

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For more information and media enquiries contact:

Praise Nutakor - Head of Communications and Partnerships, UNDP Ghana,
praise.nutakor@undp.org, +233-501323566

Daniel RexDanquah – External Communication Manager, Societe Generale (SG) Ghana,
daniel-rex.danquah@socgen.com, +233-274510800.

About UNDP

UNDP is the leading United Nations organisation fighting to end the injustice of poverty, inequality and climate change. Working with our broad network of experts and partners in 170 countries, UNDP help nations build integrated, lasting solutions for people and the planet.

About Societe Generale Ghana PLC

Societe Generale (SG) Ghana is a leading bank in Ghana with 40-networked outlets across the country. The Bank provides Individuals, SME's and Corporate Clients with dedicated innovative products and services aimed at anticipating customers' needs. It is a privately owned company listed on the Ghana Stock Exchange.

Societe Generale Ghana is a subsidiary of the Societe Generale Group, one of the leading European financial services groups based in Paris – France. Societe Generale has over 133,000 members of staff in 61 countries and supports on a daily basis 30 million individual clients, businesses and institutional investors around the world. In Africa, Societe Generale is present in 19 countries.