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ESSCA and the MathFinEco University Institute join forces to support access to top-level Management training for Beninese students

Internationally renowned ESSCA School of Management announces the signing of a strategic partnership with the MathFinEco University Institute in Benin. This collaboration is designed to offer Beninese students a unique chance to join the ESSCA Grande Ecole-Master in Management programme via a local preparatory class. As part of this partnership, a preparatory class is to be opened at Cotonou, enabling students to join the third year of the ESSCA programme after two years of study at the MathFinEco University Institute. This set-up is aimed primarily at Beninese students wishing to benefit from top-level management and business teaching whilst guaranteeing them a structured, locally adapted admissions track.

A model adapted to the challenges of student mobility in Africa

This partnership answers the mobility challenges faced by students in Africa, who are frequently confronted by problems accessing international institutions. By basing their collaboration on rigorous local training and structured academic guidance, ESSCA and the MathFinEco Institute are enabling Beninese students to apply for an international curriculum while benefitting from the best possible preparation for the French-based part of their studies.

This approach contributes to ensuring a solid and effective path for students wishing to continue their studies in a demanding academic environment.

Stéphanie Villemagne, ESSCA Development Director, declares: “this is a new step for transnational education at ESSCA in Benin and the drive to open the doors of international academic excellence to the greatest possible number.”

“This partnership will strengthen the knowledge of Management and Finance students whilst intensifying our institute’s international network”, underlines Etienne YEHOUE, MathFinEco University Institute Director General.

A top-notch educational platform meeting regional management and business training needs

With a booming economy and a clearly stated desire to strengthen ties with institutions from abroad, Benin represents the perfect terrain for developing top-level academic programmes. ESSCA will become **the first French School of Management to develop a structuring partnership in the country**, thanks to the Institute’s proven expertise.

Located in Abomey-Calavi, the Institute is officially recognised by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Benin and enjoys a solid academic reputation, especially in the fields of Engineering, Finance and Logistics. Etienne YEHOUE, Director General of the Institute, has garnered international expertise and a sound knowledge of French and English-speaking education systems, thereby ensuring an effective implementation of the partnership.

A structured programme and bespoke pedagogical support

The choice of pedagogical model breaks down into a two-phase structure:

- **Training at the MathFinEco University Institute (1st and 2nd years):** students take an academic curriculum in line with ESSCA standards, benefitting from rigorous pedagogical guidance and preparation for European academic requirements.
- **3rd year of ESSCA Grande Ecole-Master in Management programme:** admitted students will join one of ESSCA's campuses in France to continue their training up to obtention of the Masters degree.

This initiative strengthens the cooperative set-up between France and Benin and is perfectly aligned with the ambitions of both countries regarding higher education and international mobility.

About ESSCA

Based on its rich 115-year history, ESSCA School of Management is a renowned and firmly established French and European institution. A pioneering school in terms of teaching innovation and social and economic inclusion, it has striven to evolve on a permanent basis to incorporate the demands and challenges of the modern world with a will to train responsible leaders and assist organisations undergoing change.

A private higher education institution of common interest built upon a not-for-profit associative structure and a member of the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles, ESSCA School of Management delivers an officially recognised 5-year post-secondary Master degree and also offers a fully accredited Bachelor in International Management degree programme, an MBA Business & Technology and Master of Science programmes. The school also offers a range of training programmes designed specifically for senior executives, managers, and operational teams, with degree-awarding training (including an Executive Master in Global Management) and custom programmes. ESSCA is also developing on-line designed by ESSCA online campus.

Thanks to its AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS triple crown accreditation, a status held by only 1% of business schools around the world, the School is an internationally renowned institution. It features in the top 100 Masters in Management programmes in the world in the 2023 Financial Times ranking.

Strengthened by a multicampus structure that helps consolidate its appeal to local regions and the showcasing of French expertise in the areas of higher education and research, ESSCA can call upon a network of almost 21,500 alumni working all across the world and currently welcomes over 500 faculty and staff and 7,000 students on its campuses in France (Aix-en-Provence, Angers, Bordeaux, Lyon, Paris and Strasbourg), Hungary, China and most recently in Spain and Luxemburg.

Press release



About the MathFinEco University Institute

The MathFinEco University Institute is a general interest higher education institution that is a member of the International Conference for French-speaking Engineer and Technician Training. The Institute is positioned as a hub of innovation, knowledge dissemination and business incubation. Central to the Institute are two degree-granting training departments, the MathFinEco School of Engineering and MathFinEco Business School, as well as an analysis and research centre — MathFinEco Institute of Financial and Economic Studies (**MIFES**) — which is focused upon the study of financial markets (money markets, banking and insurance), public finances, taxation, public-private partnerships, risk management (including climate risks), entrepreneurship and the development economy. The Institute trains tomorrow's managers and leaders in various strategic fields, notably digital, management, finance, actuarial science, logistics and purchasing.

To ensure the excellence of its training programmes and to offer its students international exposure, the Institute has set up partnerships with renowned institutions in Europe and Africa, including with French Schools of Engineering such as Polytech Nice Sophia, Efrei Paris (Paris-Sud) and ECAM-EPMI (Paris - Cergy Pontoise). In addition, the Institute has signed agreements with state and private universities from Benin and the sub-region, including EPAC, ENEAM, and CESAG.

The Institute benefits from the expertise of around 100 faculty and managers from various backgrounds, notably Benin, the United Kingdom, Canada, the USA, France and Nigeria. These highly experienced academic and professional experts have taught in prestigious universities and institutions such as Harvard, Georgetown, Howard, École Centrale de Paris, and the International Monetary Fund Institute. They have also gained practical experience in leading international bodies and companies such as the Center for International Development at Harvard University, the IMF Department for Monetary and Capital Markets, Intelsat, Novartis Corporation, Chubb Insurance Group, and the IGS Group's Institut Poly Informatique.

<https://www.mathfineco.org/en>

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