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Suspicions of misuse of Appui à la Création d'Entreprise par les Jeunes (FACEJ I) funds by a beneficiary in Mali

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides supports to PlanBørnefonden and Swisscontact who, in a consortium, run a private sector development secretariat in Mali named 'Appui à la Création d'Entreprise par les Jeunes' (FACEJ I). FACEJ I facilitates grants and bank loans to young entrepreneurs. The MFA granted DKK 125 million for the period 2019-2024 of which DKK 105,622,128 has been disbursed.

In connection with a financial monitoring visit by the Danish Embassy in Bamako, it came to the attention of the embassy that seven out of 1,600 beneficiaries had not followed the agreed upon repayment plans. The amount under suspicion was DKK 230,000.

Out of the seven beneficiaries, repayment was successfully initiated through the local legal system for six of them. Finally, the last person was located and the bank confirmed that he had repaid the full amount.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus regards the case as closed without loss of Danish funds.