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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to FESCOPAB' s activities in Burkina Faso

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides support to the Fédération des Sociétés Coopératives des Professionnels Agricoles du Burkina (FESCOPAB), which collaborates with its sub-partner, Déni-Démè, to strengthen agri-food processing capacity in Burkina Faso under the PRO ARIDES programme.

DKK 40,000,000 was granted for the period 2022–2025, of which DKK 109,771 was disbursed to Déni-Démè. The suspicion arose after FESCOPAB identified discrepancies and false invoices issued by Déni-Démè. A manager at Déni-Démè subsequently admitted that the funds had instead been used to purchase a plot of land. The amount under suspicion is DKK 20,461.

Déni-Démè's manager was instructed to reimburse the full amount of DKK 20,461 to the account of the Micro Finance Institution. A five-month repayment period was agreed.

An internal and external audit has been launched, and project activities have been suspended. Furthermore, FESCOPAB has halted all implementation activities with Déni-Démè until the case has been clarified. FESCOPAB has also suspended further disbursements to Déni-Démè.

A formal legal review has been requested to determine the appropriate contractual and recovery actions, including in relation to the unspent amount of DKK 89,309 that has been transferred to the Microfinance Institution, which operates as the partner bank for the project.

Déni-Démè's manager was instructed to reimburse the full amount of DKK 20,461 to the account of the Microfinance Institution. A five-month repayment period was agreed.

A new report will be forwarded when there are further developments in the case.