---Press release---

Enabel, a new name for the Belgian development agency

On 1 January 2018, the Belgian Technical Cooperation (BTC) changed name. The Belgian development agency is now called Enabel. The renewed agency's mission is to implement and coordinate the Belgian development policy. The name change and the broadened mission of the Belgian development agency are part of a major reform of the Belgian Development Cooperation, which strongly aligns the Belgian development policy with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Why this reform?

The 'Enabel' Law was published in the Official Belgian Gazette on 23 November 2017 following its approval by the Belgian Parliament. This Law transforms the implementing agency of the Belgian governmental cooperation BTC into a coordinating and implementing agency for the Belgian development policy: Enabel.

With this reform the Belgian government aims to better align its development policy with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Belgian development policy focuses on inclusive economic growth, human rights and in particular women's and children's rights, digitisation and the least developed countries.

Why Enabel?

Enabel is a Belgian variant of the English verb enable, but with '-bel' at the end. Enabel means making things possible, facilitating and empowering, which is exactly what the Belgian development agency does: enable partners to do what is required to achieve sustainable development in their country. Enabel helps create circumstances that enable development; Enabel supports, motivates, encourages and promotes change; Enabel brings partners and organisations together to put things in motion and foster change.

What is Enabel's assignment?

Enabel implements Belgium's governmental development policy. The agency actively explores assignments and funding opportunities offered by third party donors in view of assisting and strengthening Belgium's foreign policy. As a social undertaking, Enabel is an attractive partner for institutions like the European Union or the World Bank.

Enabel can also carry out and coordinate international cooperation initiatives of Belgian federal instances. Thus, Enabel becomes the interface between Belgium's federal public instances and Belgian or foreign donors for international development interventions, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

Enabel's legal status

Enabel, like BTC, is a public-law company with social purposes. All contracts, agreements and commitments signed or made by BTC remain valid.

Enabel is entrusted with more autonomy, more competences and a broader mandate than before. This way, the agency is better equipped to achieve its vision, to contribute to a

sustainable world where women and men live under the rule of law and are free to pursue their aspirations.

Fit for purpose

On 14 December 2017, Belgium's Council of Ministers approved the first Management Contract contracting the Belgian federal state and Enabel. This first Management Contract is the keystone of one of the most important reforms of the Belgian Development Cooperation in the past years and confirms that Enabel is 'fit for purpose' to carry out its mission.

Key figures

- 14 country offices, primarily in Africa
- 1,500 staff members, with 70% local personnel
- Annual portfolio: 220 million euro
- 64% of activities in least-developed countries

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