

## **The AMAN-International Foundation has financed NGOs**

**An important fund to support micro-projects has been granted by FAI within the framework of its financing program called FAI-AGRIP**

**Abidjan (16.05.2007) - The AMAN-International Foundation (FAI) has once again rekindled the flame of hope among the underprivileged during the official launching ceremony of its financing program called FAI-AGRIP 2007 which was held on May 16 at the "Salle de Mariage" of the Treichville Town Hall, followed by the handing over of the funds in front of the press and the authorities on May 22 and 25. Sponsored by the Minister of Solidarity and War Victims, represented by his Chief of Staff, this ceremony also saw the participation of honor of the Minister of Culture and Francophonie represented by his technical adviser in charge of communication and external relations.**

Several personalities, business leaders, directors of institutions as well as many NGOs, associations and federations also took part in this event of high social significance whose objective was to hand over training certificates for **the FAI-RENCAP-AGR program of the AMAN-International Foundation and personal checks and funds within the framework of the FAI-AGRIP financing program of the FAI Privilege Assistance Fund** to 32 (thirty two) people, the majority of whom were women and NGOs.

The FAI-AGRIP financing program is a support plan for the FAI's Caisse d'Assistance Privilège, a program created by the FAI to complement the traditional humanitarian and development aid it provides. The Caisse d'Assistance Privilège is a special social fund set up by the Aman International Foundation and available only to its subscribers who - thanks to their Individual Privilege Card - benefit from an integration in emergency and sustainable aid programs.

This fund responds to four types of aid

- development assistance
  - social assistance
  - Promotional aid
  - special assistance programs, which are programs initiated or directly supported by FAI in collaboration with the
- in collaboration with the FAI Board of Directors in Germany.

According to the FAI spokesperson at the ceremony, the FAI Privilege Assistance Fund, from which the FAI-AGRIP program derives, is a tailor-made, effective and sustainable approach and response to assist, take care of and finance an identifiable and integrable number of disadvantaged targets.

Indeed, at the beginning of the school and academic year 2006, the hall of the town hall of Treichville had already welcomed an important link of the Caisse d'Assistance Privilège: the Education component with the delivery of scholarships going up to 100% of the schooling of young people in Côte d'Ivoire for an amount of assistance estimated at more than 40 (forty) million FCFA.

The AMAN-International Foundation has defined the FAI-AGRIP program as a support plan of the Caisse d'Assistance Privilège for the financing of "Immediate and Permanent Income Generating Activities" initiated since 2006.

"The FAI-AGRIP financing plan consists of providing financial assistance to disadvantaged people who want to undertake micro-projects capable of producing income very quickly and continuously in order to achieve a sustainable improvement in the living conditions of these people and their families.

It consists in securing the beneficiaries not only for the vital needs thanks to the panoply of the primary advantages of the Caisse d'Assistance Privilège, but also at a second degree to give them the means to take charge of themselves permanently. As they say, it is better to learn to fish than to give fish to the hungry every day" insisted the founding president, Mrs Marie Ginette AMANI, in her speech.

In the logic of the FAI, there are small projects, small and therefore easier to control for the social categories of low or almost non-existent income. The AMAN-International Foundation wants to promote them to allow a large number of people to get out of poverty and participate in development.

The special FAI-AGRIP program financed projects in 2006 and 2007 in amounts ranging from:

FCFA 50,000 (fifty thousand CFA francs) to FCFA 1,000,000 (one million CFA francs) and these loans were granted with 0% (zero) interest. The objective is therefore purely social but access to the AGRIP program is of course subject to particularly strict procedures to ensure positive impact and repayment of funds granted within the strict framework of a limited annual budget.

The FAI spokesperson recalled that in 2007 the FAI-AGRIP program had been opened to the general public on the Foundation's website ([www.aman-international.org](http://www.aman-international.org)) and in the morning fraternity ads. Also, the NGO partners had been invited to participate in the FAI-AGRIP program, proposing twelve people per organization.

Individuals, groups of individuals and NGOs who responded with both spontaneity and a file that met the criteria of the FAI-AGRIP program were selected by the IGA department's financing committee and proposed to the FAI Board of Directors.

Apart from individuals, NGOs such as the NGO of War Degraded, the NGO Fasapan EST of Anyama, the federation of planters victims of war in the West of Côte d'Ivoire concerned about the fate of

their members had submitted and valiantly supported the files of unemployed and enterprising women of their organization

The beneficiaries of this wave from all over Côte d'Ivoire and present had received the validation of the Foundation's board in Germany and had been given by the hands of the founding president and the guests of honor present: their Individual Privilege Card, personal financing checks as well as training certificates to the FAI-RENCAP-AGR program (Capacity Building in IGA), for the brilliant participation in the free training offered by the FAI in the techniques of micro-project management.

A total of 32 people received a total of 3,500,000 CFA francs (three million five hundred thousand CFA francs) which was handed over in cash on Tuesday 22 and Friday 25 May 2007 to the lucky beneficiaries, in front of the press, the authorities and all the FAI staff in Abidjan.

To close this first event, the founding president, Mrs. Marie Ginette AMANI, congratulated the lucky beneficiaries, advising them to demonstrate good management of the funds in the implementation of their projects in order to achieve sustainable personal development, but also to contribute to the economic growth of Côte d'Ivoire in the post-crisis period, because she stressed that this is the goal that the AMAN-International Foundation has set by initiating the FAI-AGRIP financing plan of its Caisse d'Assistance Privilège program that it wants to perpetuate.