



Horus and Advans celebrate the 50,000th VIE volunteer

On 6 November 2014, Matthias Fekl, Secretary of State for Foreign Trade, Tourism and French citizens abroad as well as Michel Oldenberg, the director of the VIE (International Volunteering) programme at Ubifrance, Henri Baissas, Deputy CEO in charge of operations and other representatives met Anaïs Joseph, to celebrate her becoming the 50,000th volunteer in the VIE programme.



The meeting took place at Horus Development Finance's (Horus) offices in Paris, where Ms Joseph has recently joined the Internal Audit department. She will be spending 6 months of her VIE placement supporting the Internal Audit Unit at Advans Côte d'Ivoire and then 6 months with Advans Ghana, partner companies of Horus. During the event, Claude Falgon, CEO of Horus, and Steven Duchatelle, Deputy CEO of Horus, presented Horus and the Advans group to the visitors and explained how VIE placements allow Horus and the Advans network to source talented and motivated young people to support group projects in developing countries. Mr Fekl awarded trophies to Anaïs Joseph and to Horus to mark the occasion.

The VIE programme is organised by Ubifrance, the French agency for the international promotion of businesses which aims to support the export of Small and Very Small Entreprises. Ubifrance also works to facilitate the recruitment of graduates and young professionals.

The statistics show the success of this programme:

- Horus has recruited 21 VIEs since 2003 and 12 VIEs obtained a position in the group following their placement, with 7 former VIEs currently working for the group, of which several in managerial positions.
- 5 VIEs are currently working in the field; two with Advans Banque Congo, two with Advans Côte d'Ivoire and one with Advans Tunisie.
- 3 new VIE placements have already been planned in partnership with Ubifrance.

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