

# Equity group deepens Africa-France Economic Cooperation through new strategic partnerships

**Equity Group** has signed a series of strategic partnerships with French organizations aimed at boosting trade, agriculture, climate resilience and financing for small businesses across Africa during the Africa Forward innovation and Growth Summit held in Nairobi.

The summit brought together heads of state including President William Ruto and President Emmanuel Macron who signed the agreements and signed as leaders and stakeholders.

Speaking during the summit, Equity Group Managing

Director Dr. James Mwangi said the partnerships are expected to increase access to financing for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which continue to play a major role in driving Africa's economy.

The agreements involve collaboration between Equity Group and several French institutions including CIRAD, PROPARGO and SEMMARIS.

According to Dr. Mwangi, the partnerships will focus on key sectors critical to Africa's economic transformation, including trade finance, agricultural value chains, food security, climate-smart

agriculture and regional economic integration.

He noted that the collaborations are also expected to strengthen sustainable development efforts while supporting enterprise growth and industrial transformation across African economies.

Equity Group said the partnerships will create opportunities for businesses to access financing, improve agricultural productivity and strengthen cross-border trade within the continent and beyond.

The collaboration with French

institutions is also expected to support innovation and knowledge exchange in areas such as agricultural research, climate adaptation and market access for African enterprises.

The summit highlighted the growing economic relationship between Africa and France, with leaders emphasizing the importance of partnerships in driving inclusive growth, job creation and long-term economic resilience.

Equity Group further stated that the agreements reinforce its position as a key player in advancing regional integration and supporting businesses



**Equity Group Managing Director and CEO, Dr. James Mwangi (Left) and Proparco CEO Françoise Lombard (right) during the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Equity Group Holdings and Proparco.**

through strategic international collaborations.

The Africa Forward Summit comes at a time when African countries are increasingly

seeking global partnerships to accelerate economic growth, strengthen food systems and enhance resilience against climate and economic shocks.