Sharp decline in FDI in Algeria in 2010

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Foreign direct investment (FDI) in Algeria have experienced a “sharp decline” in 2010, according to a study entitled Mediterranean network Anima “Foreign direct investment and partnerships to the MED in 2010.” The study notes that the decline was observed in both number of projects that amount. The actual flow of FDI fell by 13% over 2009, according Anima quoting the World Bank. The agency attributed the substantial decline in the “new cure” introduced in the Finance Bill 2010 which would be complementary, he notes, discouraged investors. Anima said that one of these measures was to “give preference to Algerian companies whose financial bids exceed those of foreign competitors to a surcharge of 25%”.

Algeria is “marked by a certain anti-liberalism (import restrictions on the control of FDI etc..)” Concludes the study. The same source, the amount of FDI recorded in Algeria between 2003 and 2010 would be just under 20 billion euros with a peak in 2005 (almost 4 billion euros). The year 2010 was the least subdivided during the last decade.

FDI has barely reached 805 million euros during this period. Anima is that Egypt, 11th largest foreign investor in the region with 63 projects announced an investment of nearly 6.8 billion euros (557 million in 2010) has invested heavily in Algeria (30 projects a net total of nearly 4.3 billion euros). Its companies have established subsidiaries cement (sold in late 2007 to the French Lafarge) and telecom giant Orascom.

In 2010, it remained the largest employer in the telecom sector in Algeria (4500 direct jobs and over 100 000 indirect jobs), according to the same source. La France remains the largest foreign investor in Algeria with 650 million euro provided between 2008 and 2010. It is followed by Italy, the United States and Russia respectively invested 147 million euros, 134 million euros and 83 million euros. The biggest announcements of FDI in 2010 are those identified by the group Anima UAE, EIIC who received the green light for a mega-city park called Dunya, and tourist complex west of Algiers 1.805 billion euros as well as Total (France), which won the project development of eight gas fields in Timimoun whose first production is expected to end 2013 (€ 680 million) and that of Emirali (United Arab Emirates), a property developer who started building a joint project, the “El Djazair Forum” in the coastal zone of west Moretti Algiers (206 M).