Welcome to Naija!

From the Northeast, where the Sultan of Sokoto has his seat, to the middle belt landscapes that provide the country’s food basket, to the “Centre of Unity” in the capital city Abuja, to “Nollywood” and the cultural and commercial hub of Lagos – the economic powerhouse of Africa, Nigeria or as called in Pidgin English “Naija” - has many faces to show.

Nigeria and its 200 million people are, however, also faced with numerous challenges: More than 40% of the population live in extreme poverty, approximately 23% are unemployed and limited access to health care leads to one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. Furthermore, the Northeast has seen a decade of terror with more than 2 million people being internally displaced.

With more than 20 programmes and projects, we currently operate one of the largest portfolios of GIZ in Africa. With this brochure, we would like to share insights of GIZ’s work in Nigeria and the ECOWAS region and show how technical cooperation provides sustainable solutions in order to help improve the lives of people in the country and the region.

I hope you enjoy your read!

Ina Hommers
Country Director GIZ Nigeria & ECOWAS


**GIZ Worldwide**

**Who we are and what we do**

Since 1 January 2011 the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH has brought together the long-standing expertise of the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED) gGmbH (German Development Service), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH (German Technical Cooperation) and InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany.

GIZ operates in over 130 countries worldwide and has more than 17,000 staff members around the globe – some 70% of whom are employed locally as national personnel. As a federal enterprise, we support the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. We work in a variety of fields and support our cooperation partners in designing strategies and meeting their policy goals.

**What we offer**

The growing importance of globally significant issues, the recent changes in international development cooperation and the various new trends that can be seen in our partner countries have led to a shift in demand for the services we provide. Parallel to this, clients’ requirements are becoming increasingly differentiated.

We deliver our services in the form of direct contributions with the overall objective of developing capacity. We cooperate directly with local partners and bear joint responsibility for the measures we implement.
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GIZ in Nigeria
Nigeria’s partner for sustainable development since 1974

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) is a federal enterprise that acts on the basis of the values and fundamentals of the Federal Republic of Germany. GIZ operates in developing countries, emerging economies and industrialised states to implement international cooperation for sustainable development on behalf of the German Government (especially BMZ). We offer workable, sustainable and effective solutions in political, economic and social change processes. Our actions are guided by the principles of sustainability. We believe that only by combining social responsibility, ecological balance, political participation and economic capability will current and future generations be able to lead secure and dignified lives. We work with our partners to devise learning processes and then realise these jointly to ensure that partner country capacities flourish in the long term and that project results are sustainable towards a future worth living around the world.

GIZ has been active in Nigeria since 1974. Our main offices are in Abuja, with field offices in Abeokuta (Ogun), Akure (Ondo), Benin (Edo), Birnin Kebbi (Kebbi), Maiduguri (Borno), Plateau (Jos), Kaduna (Kaduna), Kano (Kano), Ibadan (Oyo), Makurdi (Benue), Minna (Niger), Sokoto (Sokoto), Victoria Island (Lagos), Yola (Adamawa), Anambra (Awka), Cross River (Calabar), Enugu (Enugu) and Delta (Asaba). With 416 employees as of December 2019, we work with the Nigerian government to articulate, negotiate and implement its ideas for reform and development. We hereby focus on enhancing the capacities of individuals and organisations in the country. Our work in Nigeria is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the European Union, other German Ministries, the German Foreign Office, Nigerian institutions, as well as international organisations such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
Our areas of operation in Nigeria comprise:

- Economic Development and Job Creation
- Agricultural Value Chain Development
- Migration and Development
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Peace, Reconstruction and Security
- Good Governance
- Public Health
Areas of Technical Cooperation

- Economic Development and Job Creation
- Migration and Development
- Agricultural Value Chain Development
The Challenge

Nearly a quarter of the Nigerian population is unemployed. According to a recent report from the National Bureau of Statistics, youths between 15 to 34 years account for 55.4% of the unemployed and underemployed rate in Nigeria. Due to the country’s dwindling socio-economic situation, Nigerian youth increasingly struggle to have income-generating employment opportunities in the country. Poor quality of curricula, teacher training, and lack of equipment in the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) educational system contribute to the lack of adequate qualified manpower to develop sectors with a high employment potential such as agriculture and construction.

Our Approach

The objective of SKYE is to increase the prospects of income-generating employment for Nigerian youth between the ages of 15 and 35 in the selected sectors of agriculture, construction and the occupational field of industrial mechanics. Through the promotion of needs-based TVET, the programme addresses the supply and demand sides of the integrated employment approach by focusing on improving the quality of TVET in the labour-intensive construction and agriculture sectors, and by promoting public and private stakeholder dialogues about TVET. SKYE supports Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and the improvement of the quality of technical and vocational training in the field of industrial mechanics. It also seeks to increase the provision of information and advice on opportunities to enter the job market.
Ibrahim Sodiq, a graduate of electrical engineering worked as a contract technician for an electrical company earning a daily income of 2,500 Nigerian naira. He didn't have enough to fend for himself and care for his sick mother and siblings. Faced with these and other socio-economic challenges, Ibrahim decided to migrate to Europe – through the dangerous desert route – with the dream of obtaining better opportunities.

In December 2018, Ibrahim voluntarily returned to Nigeria from Libya after spending a year and four months out of the country. He enrolled in the 8 weeks hands-on technical training course funded by the SKYE programme and organised by Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF). Today, Ibrahim is utilizing the reintegration skills support received to find and execute better (contract) jobs. Being self-employed, Ibrahim said, has helped him earn more money than before, take care of his family, and even become an employer himself.
Areas of Technical Cooperation

The Challenge

The lack of employment opportunities represents a serious challenge for the Nigerian economy and society. About 44% of the working age population is either unemployed or underemployed and 60% of the Nigerian population lives below the poverty line. While micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) provide for 84% of employment and 50% of economic growth, inadequate framework conditions, insufficient productive and entrepreneurial skills and barriers to access financial services constrain their sustainable growth.

Our Approach

Aiming at tackling this challenge from the demand side, SEDIN provides trainings and capacity building to owners of MSMEs, with special attention paid to women, youth, farmers, start-ups and returning migrants. SEDIN focuses its technical, entrepreneurial and financial literacy support on beneficiaries in selected value chains and provides support to local markets & local administrative units.

15,000+ Nigerians trained in entrepreneurship and management, 100,000+ Nigerians trained in financial literacy
Results in Stories

Jerry Isaac Mallo is a young entrepreneur with strong interest in technology and machines. After studying in the UK, he decided to return to Nigeria to establish his own engineering company in Plateau State and to provide farmers with more suitable and affordable machinery. SEDIN provided him with entrepreneurship training and supported him in registering his business and obtaining loans from a partner MFB. He now builds tractors and several agricultural processing machines. His company’s annual income has increased 23-fold and he created five permanent and 15 part-time jobs. In 2018, Jerry received the “National MSME Award of the Year”, from the Federal Government of Nigeria.

SEDIN advises relevant stakeholders to allow for an enabling business environment in areas such as business registration, land acquisition, construction permits, taxation, ADR and trade competitiveness.
Economic Development and Job Creation

Tech Entrepreneurship Initiative “Make-IT in Africa”
Promoting Economic Empowerment Through Digital Entrepreneurship

The Challenge

Many tech entrepreneurs from Africa are still unable to make the leap to international market maturity. There is a lack of access to capital, markets, suitable personnel and digital infrastructure. In order to be successful, entrepreneurs need a functioning “entrepreneurial ecosystem” consisting of reference customers, investors, funding agencies and training partners. However, many ecosystems are fragmentary, and tech start-ups lack important contacts, adequate financing and opportunities for further development.

Our Approach

‘Make-IT in Africa’ supports the growth of enabling environments for young entrepreneurs in the digital sector in Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Tunisia and Rwanda – to facilitate better access to finance, gain access to markets, promote skills development, and support an enabling policy environment.
The programme supports start-ups across four areas of interventions:

**Better access to finance:**
- Financial coaching to increase utilization of investment and funding opportunities
- Development of Online Entrepreneurship Guides to Investment

**Better access to markets:**
- Business to business (B2B) matchmaking to identify key industry partners
- Ecosystem activities to strengthen interactions and improve cooperation between key players

**Mentoring & Skills Development**
- Capacity building to improve business acumen
- Mentorship to provide expert-level support in specified business sectors
- Master Classes for Tech Start-Ups

**Policy Dialogue**
- Facilitation of ecosystem meet-ups and policy hackathons
- Development of an Online Policy Review Portal

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**Results in Stories**

In 2018, Track Your Build expanded to Nigeria, where its headquarters is currently based.

“Our expansion from Sierra Leone to Nigeria was enabled by our place in the GIZ Make-IT programme which gave us the opportunity to have a physical presence in Nigeria. The expansion created some new roles and expanded our management team by three new team members.”

Today, Track Your Build has broadened its range of services to include smart infrastructure management, oil and gas project mapping and monitoring, and telecommunications infrastructure inspections.

In 2019, the company is positioned to take advantage of all the business development relationships made in 2018.

Make-IT’s exposure trips resulted in two logistics startups entering into deals with German construction and transportation companies.
Migration and Development
Programme Migration & Diaspora – PMD

The Challenge

According to the United Nations, there were around 258 million migrants in 2017. Bridge-builders between their countries of origin and the countries where they now live and work, these people are key drivers of development: they get involved in local associations and implement projects on site, send remittances to family and friends, and apply their knowledge and experience when returning home on a temporary or permanent basis for work or to set up a business. Nigeria appears to be considerably affected by the brain drain syndrome as an estimated 20 million Nigerians are currently living in the Diaspora (IOM, 2014). However, a significant number of the Nigerian Diaspora also contributes immensely to development in Nigeria through remittances. Placed fifth on the chart, remittances coming from Nigerians in the Diaspora expectedly amounted to $22bn and contributed to over 5.4% of the country’s Gross National Product (GDP) in 2017 (World Bank, 2018). About 40,000 Nigerians from the quoted figure reside in Germany. The development-related contributions of migrants are not being fully utilized, and the necessary framework conditions are inadequate in most countries of origin. This is where the global Programme Migration & Diaspora comes in.

Kester Audu and colleagues during the commissioning of the MECA project in Niger state
Our Approach
The Programme has five priority areas:

- **Development-oriented return:** Support for returning experts who have studied or worked in Germany and who wish to put their knowledge to good use by working in their countries of origin.

- **Regular labour migration and mobility:** Information on the risks posed by irregular migration and advice to qualified migrants on job and study opportunities in Germany as options for regular migration to Germany.

- **Social engagement of the diaspora:** Support for development-oriented projects organised by diaspora organisations and support for voluntary short-term assignments for so-called diaspora experts.

- **Financial and economic contribution of the diaspora:** Support for migrants who wish to start their own businesses in their countries of origin and increase transparency in the remittances market.

- **Migration governance:** Capacity development of partner institutions for the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) goals.

### Impact in figures (2016 - 2019)
Since its inception in Nigeria in 2016, the Programme has supported 36 returning experts contributing to BMZ’s focus such as: scientific cooperation, energy, health, food security, education, environmental protection, sustainable economic development, water management, peace development, etc. Nine diaspora organisations, in collaboration with partner organisations in Nigeria, have received support to implement various development-oriented projects within the period under review. 15 diaspora experts have completed short-term missions with host institutions in Nigeria.
The Challenge

Nigerians account for the highest number of migrants from Africa to Europe, and currently make up the third largest share of asylum applications in Germany (BAMF). One of the causes attributed to this trend is the persistent increase in unemployment in the country. Driven by the desire for improved livelihoods and a better future, many migrants risk their lives travelling through the Sahara Desert to Libya and across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe. As they migrate irregularly, most only have the option of applying for asylum – with little prospect of success. Often, migrants leave their country of origin based on false information, false hopes and untenable promises. In particular, young Nigerians tend to see migration as the only means to escape from unemployment.

Our Approach

The global Programme Migration for Development aims to fill this void by offering returnees and the local population comprehensive advisory and support services, ranging from training opportunities and returnee preparatory measures in Germany to advice and qualifications for getting (re)established at home. In collaboration with the Nigerian Federal Ministry for Labour and Employment (FMLE), the PMD set up the Nigerian-German Centre for Jobs, Migration and Reintegration (NGC).

The NGC has created more than 23,400 opportunities for a fresh start back home and prospects for staying. Over 10,000 individual consultations have been held, 1,973 young Nigerians placed into jobs, 816 placed in internship and 3,306 provided with business start-up support as at December 2020.
The Centre’s hub is in Lagos, with additional offices in Benin City and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The NGC offers individual counselling services to returning migrants and the local population. The focus lies on providing advice on employment, business and educational perspectives in Nigeria. In addition, the advisors inform about the risks of irregular migration, as well as the opportunities and requirements for regular migration to Germany.

The NGC further cooperates closely with the bilateral GIZ programmes Pro-poor Growth and Promotion of Employment in Nigeria (SEDIN) and Skills Development for Youth Employment in Nigeria (SKYE) to promote employability and job placements, including referral services to targeted vocational skills development and entrepreneurial trainings. In collaboration with Civil Society Organisations, the NGC further offers psychosocial support and shelter services to returnees. In addition, the programme builds the capacity of the FMLE to address the topic of (labour) migration and economic reintegration and assists the FMLE’s Migrant Resource Centres in providing client-oriented services.

Results in Stories

Damilare Sanusi

Damilare Sanusi is graduate of Early Childhood Education/Political Science from the University of Ibadan. He came to the NGC for counselling and informed on his business idea to start a fish farm. He participated in the Career Path training of the NGC in November, 2018 and was then referred to the Entrepreneurial Cycle training implemented in collaboration with the SEDIN programme where he received entrepreneurship training and was equipped with the needed business skills to develop his business idea. The training was complemented by a 9-weeks internship at Yeka Agric business and Development Entreprise, where he gained hands on experience on how to run a fish farm. He was supported by the NGC to register his business known as “Albatik Farms” which is now up and running in Gwarinpa, Abuja.

Damilare presenting his stock fish business to clients
The Challenge

Smallholders in Nigeria produce food for daily consumption, and they represent about 80 percent of the country’s farming population. However, their yields are low, which is why Africa’s largest economy has to import food to meet the demand. In order to be able to supply Nigeria’s 190 million inhabitants with more local products, it is necessary for smallholders to know and adopt good modern cultivation techniques. This is the only way they can expand their cultivation areas, increase productivity and have a higher income.

Furthermore, the up- and downstream sectors need to be strengthened to improve markets for inputs and foster value addition of locally produced goods. In light of this, the project “Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector” supports smallholder farmers and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) in the cassava, maize, rice, and Irish potato value chains. Employment shall be created particularly.

Our Approach

To achieve this, the Green Innovation Centre project is implementing different approaches to build the capacity of smallholders and MSMEs since knowledge is vital for any progress. The trainings “Good Agricultural Practices” and “Farmer Business Schools” provide smallholders with knowledge of the basics of good crop production, business management that goes beyond agricultural practice.
Farmers learn how to plan investments and how to keep account of expenditure and income. This is carried out in eight of the federal states of the country (Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Nassarawa, Benue, Cross River, Oyo, and Ogun) with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) as the main implementing partner through the state agricultural development programme (ADP). Demonstration plots are established to convey knowledge on Good Agricultural Practices in an experiential and interactive way. Based on the training materials 3D-animated short films were developed and presented after the training sessions and distributed via WhatsApp groups. Internet, video, and radio are used to further provide information on technical production techniques.

In addition, existing or established MSME are provided with the SME Business Training and Coaching Loop for entrepreneurs towards the business environment, unlocking and enhancing personal entrepreneurial and management competencies. And the project is facilitating contract farming as part of its support for the up and downstream sectors.

Results in Stories

The Farmer Business School approach supports smallholders to improve their business and management skills beyond good cultivation techniques. Sunusi Isah a 60-year old farmer, is a beneficiary of the training at Soba East of Zaria, Kaduna State.

He points to his maize field, saying, “I’ve rarely seen plants as healthy as these, whatever I was growing in the past was never quite enough to feed my family. But this time I am sure I will achieve a surplus.” He added that, after attending the Farmer Business School of the Innovation Centres, „I have learned how I can do things a lot better – with regards to agricultural practices as well as business skills, including having sound financial planning to offset my costs against profits. My approach to farming has changed, as now I adopt the use of the financial calendar and evaluating the production year to know if I make profit or loss. This is really good for me because farming in the past was all about applying all the inherited farming practices without considering whether I make profit or loss, but now I am mindful of making sure I apply the right cultivation techniques to make a profit from my farming.“
The Challenge

Smallholder Nigerian agriculture suffers from low productivity. Poor agricultural output results in persistent food insecurity; studies indicate that up to 70% of Nigerians are food insecure. At the same time, the Central Bank of Nigeria estimates 41.6% of the adult population is totally financially excluded, meaning that they borrow or remit only through family and friends; if they save, they save at home. Most small farmers rely on self-help and informal sources of financing. While this statistic is worrying, AgFin’s own research noted that most agricultural borrowers are those farmers with the lowest productivity; while high productivity farmers are highly unlikely to access to financial services. This, unfortunately leads to a situation where although there is willingness from financiers to engage in the agricultural sector; the end result may be large scale financial losses, little improvement to the rural economy and discouragement of efforts in financial inclusion – if the strategy isn’t improved.

Our Approach

AgFin works on both the supply side of agricultural finance (supporting financiers to provide services); and the demand side of agricultural finance (supporting farmers and SMEs to qualify for financial services).
Strategically, AgFin uses

- (i) quantitative research to identify those farmers and businesses that want and can pay for financial services;
- (ii) direct mentoring to commercial lenders to develop and deliver policies and products;
- (iii) financial inclusion training for farmers and SMEs that concludes with the opening of a bank account.

**Quantitative research**
AgFin has interviewed over 1,000 farmers resulting in a data set of over 100,000 data points revealing aspects of their businesses that make them creditworthy or otherwise.

**Direct support to Financiers**
AgFin has signed MOUs with four commercial banks and develops with them best practice, mainstreamed policies and procedures for providing agricultural finance based on and market realities.

**Financial inclusion**
AgFin trains unbanked (but capable of being banked) farmers and SMEs.

- AgFin concentrates principally on five key value chains: Cassava, Cocoa, Irish Potato, Maize, Rice; with major focus on Benue, Kaduna, Kano, Nasarawa, Niger, Ogun, Oyo and Plateau States.

## Preliminary Results

AgFin became effective in January 2019 and will run through June 2022. AgFin has so far trained 2 commercial banks and nine Micro-finance Banks. AgFin has profiled over 1,000 farmers on the basis of their ability to borrow and repay. AgFin has developed 4 financial products. Finally, AgFin has trained 400 farmers in financial literacy. In 2020, AgFin will come to full speed and targets: 8 new financing strategies; 120 SMEs trained in analyzing their businesses; 12,000 farmers trained in financial literacy; and 12,000 rural businesses trying a financial product.

AgFin has trained 160 farmer beneficiaries in financial literacy and aided them to open current accounts.
The Challenge

Rice is becoming one of the most important food crops on the African continent. Steep population growth, coupled with rapid urbanization and changing consumer behavior, are the main drivers behind the increasing demand. In 2018, consumption in Sub-Saharan Africa was estimated at 26.6 million metric tons (MT) a year. This number will increase even further by 2026, when consumption is expected to reach more than 34 million MT.

With this increase in consumption, production quantities fall short of meeting this demand. The gap between demand and supply across Africa is ultimately filled by substantial amounts of imported rice – mostly from Asia.

Our Approach

The Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI) aims at improving the livelihoods of smallholder rice farmers through increased agricultural productivity and improved food security, ultimately reducing extreme poverty. Local processing and marketing companies benefit from a reliable supply of high-quality rice, as they enter constant supply relationships with smallholders. CARI is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and co-financed by the Bill & Melinda
Gates Foundation, in cooperation with local implementing partners such as Kilimo Trust (KT) and the John A. Kufuor Foundation (JAKF). CARI operates in four African countries: Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Ghana (Implementation ended 2019) and Tanzania - working with the national rice industries to promote inclusive business models in the rice value chain.

Results in Stories

Hajia Lami Gambo is a rice farmer and processor from Samawa in Garun Malam Local Government Area of Kano State. She is about 60 years old and was amongst one of the first set of women to participate in the parboiling techniques and economics training which CARI organised.

As a result of the training, the women groups saw a huge difference in the outcome of their processing and started talking about branding the rice. They were so proud of the rice that they eventually came up with Tauraruwa, which is Hausa for Star. This was their star and they wanted to show it to the world.

No one was prouder than Hajia Lami. ‘With Tauraruwa, I am now a real business woman. I am producing rice which has a name and is bagged for sale in supermarkets. Each time I think about it, I just smile; I’m a better cook and a real business woman.’
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Nigerian Energy Support Programme II – NESP

The Challenge

Nigeria continues to suffer from a chronic shortage of electric power. The country has an installed electricity generation capacity of around 13,700 MW (in comparison: South Africa generates 51 GW), of which in 2018 only around 4,500 MW were available due to gas constraints, grid constraints and other technical issues. The slow performance of the public power sector has resulted in frequent power shortages, leaving large, medium and small enterprises as well as households without reliable electricity. Around 55 percent of the population do not have access to grid-connected electricity. In rural areas, the number goes up to even 75 per cent.

Our Approach

Against this backdrop, the Nigerian Energy Support Programme (NESP), co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, advises key stakeholders in utilizing the potentials of energy efficiency, integrating renewable energy...
into the grid and further scaling rural electrification. The overarching aim is targeted at the provision of reliable, affordable and sustainable energy for the Nigerian people.

This is includes provision of energy to disadvantaged parts of the population that have not had access to modern energy services before. Moreover, NESP supports the Federal Ministry of Power in developing an interactive database for the energy market in Nigeria. NESP further provides technical advisory on enabling regulatory frameworks, energy efficiency in buildings and industries, standard development and access to finance to a wide range of stakeholders and supports national training institutions in offering trainings on clean energy. Special emphasis is given to the promotion of gender equality in the sector by offering training scholarships and internships to women.

Results in Stories

Mrs. Adebisi Esho is one of the villagers in Gbamu Gbamu community – Ogun state, who has benefitted from a solar mini-grid project that was implemented with the support of NESP in 2017. Now, she enjoys 24-hour access to reliable electricity and saves more than 1000 Naira per day on fuel costs.

“The vendor of frozen fish and drinks said: “... the mini-grid is a welcome development as I am now able to run my freezer all night to ensure the fish is fresh and frozen before taking it to market. Now there is adequate power to ensure that the fish in freezer stays frozen longer. With this power, I no longer have to buy expensive fuel for my business. The solar mini-grid is slowly transforming our community (Gbamu Gbamu) and we are happy, excited and know that the future is brighter!”

Fishseller Adebisi Esho © Andrew Esiebo
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Development Partnership with Schneider Electric

The Challenge

Access to electricity is one of the major challenges for many Nigerian households, particularly for those in rural areas. Only 40 percent of the rural population has access to electricity compared to 60 percent in urban areas. Solar energy can be a solution to this. In addition, there is a huge potential for youth to take up jobs in order to strengthen the development of the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector in Nigeria. Nonetheless, competency standards and technical trainings on the topic need to be developed and updated periodically to fill the huge capacity gap.

With the aim to fulfill this capacity requirement, a development partnership between the Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and Schneider Electric under the [develoPPP.de programme](https://www.developp.de) financed by the German Government was created.

Our Approach

The project seeks to create a solar training program for young Nigerians contributing to bridging the massive qualification and skills gap in the solar sector. Through a Trainer of Trainers (ToT) approach selected trainers of different institutes will receive a hands-on training on Solar Photovoltaic Installation Supervision. Furthermore, the trainers will be instructed on didactics, pedagogy and participatory methods. Both trainings will enable the trainers to train effectively students in their institutes.
The trainers will also be assisted by project partners to develop training plans being mindful of training outcomes. Regular follow up and monitoring will be carried out during the course of the project and afterward to ensure the effective delivery of the training and assess the level of achievements.

The participating institutions are (1) Railway Technical Institute, Lagos (2) Yaba College of Technology, Lagos and (3) ETIWA Vocational Training Centre, Lagos.

Results in Stories

In May 2019 Schneider Electric and GIZ offered a 5-week Training on Solar Photovoltaic Installation Supervision to eleven trainers of three different training institutions in Lagos.

During the hands-on training the instructors were exposed to an integrated curriculum developed by GIZ.

11 trainers received a training on Solar Photovoltaic Installation Supervision

In a prior workshop held in Germany in 2018 these instructors were trained on the principles of pedagogical methods. These workshops ensure that the trainers are equipped in both the technical and the teaching methods for effective knowledge and skills transfer to young professionals.

The technical course now enables trainers to effectively train young professionals in their respective schools to enable young Nigerians to work as solar technicians in future.

From January 2020, technical courses on solar PV will now be offered at these three training institutes in Lagos.
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Scaling up University Electrification in Nigeria

The Challenge

Nigeria suffers from frequent power outages. The lack of reliable power affects amongst others the education sector in Nigeria. Local universities and other educational institutions, especially in rural areas have limited access to on-grid electricity and rely on environmentally harmful diesel generators. In 2016, several schools and universities did not have enough power to provide hitch-free lessons. As a result, some universities even had to close partially.

The use of decentralised, modern energy services can contribute to increasing the electrification rate in Nigeria. Furthermore, the renewable energy sector offers medium and long-term job prospects for the Nigerian population. However, the implementation capacities of the actors are weak and knowledge about the potentials of renewable energy as well as technical skills on the use of solar technologies in Nigeria are not sufficiently widespread.
Our Approach

In order to increase the electrification of Nigerian universities and qualify students of engineering careers to use solar technologies, the German Foreign Office funded the Scaling up University Electrification in Nigeria Programme in 2017. The programme operates in two main areas of intervention: Both measures are supported by an integrated expert (IE) which is placed at the University of Ibadan.

In the first major area of intervention the IE supports the University of Ibadan to develop a solar power supply model. This will be implemented in two additional universities.

In the second area of intervention the IE helps to build up a solar lab in which he conducts solar trainings for students of the University of Ibadan, other universities and training institutes. Furthermore the IE develops teaching approaches on how solar content can be embedded into the curriculum of engineering sciences.

Results in Stories

25 lecturers from eight partnering universities have completed a four week hands-on training on Solar Photovoltaic Installation Supervision. During the hands-on training the participants learned the basics on solar PV and are now enabled to understand the teaching dynamics to effectively train young professionals in Nigerian schools. The practical skills transfer to universities will ensure that students are better able to meet the demands of industries, thus benefitting from job opportunities in renewable energies.

In addition to introducing solar PV content into the curriculum of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, adequate solar PV teaching equipment was purchased including a 6kW solar carport.

The solar carport currently provides 24 hours of electricity to students and faculty of the department and significantly serves as a learning and demonstration tool including other departments and faculty within the university, generating interest and awareness of the potentials of solar PV.

25 lecturers across 8 universities were trained on Solar Photovoltaic Installation Supervision
Peace, Reconstruction and Security

Support to Strengthening Resilience in North-East Nigeria

The Challenge

Nigeria has more than 180 million inhabitants, making it the most populous country in Africa. It is also one of the poorest. Poverty, food insecurity and inadequate access to education and health care are particularly severe in the Northeast. The activities of the terrorist organisation Boko Haram have drastically exacerbated the situation. Since 2009 there have been repeated violent attacks, especially in Borno state. To date more than 20,000 people have lost their lives in these attacks, and some 2.3 million have been displaced from their communities of origin.

Our Approach

The Programme targets IDPs, host communities, returnees and return communities. Through the rehabilitation of school, health, WASH and market-related facilities, the Programme contributes to the improvement of basic service infrastructure. It further promotes the resumption of agricultural activities and fosters youth economic empowerment through vocational training support. The Programme further aims to decrease access barriers to education and to improve the quality of basic education through targeted systems strengthening support. Relationships between local communities and leaders, government institutions and civil society are strengthened through Community Development Planning (CDP), a participatory bottom-up planning process.
Konkol is one of the 10 wards in Maiha Local Government Area (LGA) of Adamawa state. The community was devastated by Boko Haram insurgent attacks in 2014. In 2017/2018, the Programme implemented CDP there.

Following the CDP process, the Konkol Ward Project Supervisory Committee self-organised a fundraising event for the supply of school furniture to certain schools within Konkol ward. A total of N400,000 was raised and subsequently used to construct 40 three-seater desks which were distributed to Konkol Primary School and Government Day Secondary School, Konkol.

“We have taken these steps to develop our community because of the learning and enlightenment the CDP process has given us. Even at this level we now know we can help ourselves to improve our children’s education and our community as a whole without necessarily waiting on the government.”
The Challenge

Plateau State in central Nigeria is affected by conflict. Displacement and insecurity affect agricultural and livestock farming. Value chains are disrupted, and the rural population’s self-sufficiency capacities are diminished. Various conflict lines contribute to tensions: farmers and cattle herders compete over natural resources such as water and land; political and economic interests are widespread; and different cultural, religious and ethnic identities prevail.

Our Approach

PEACECORE is a Transitional Development Assistance project promoting the peaceful coexistence, inclusive peacebuilding and conflict transformation, poverty reduction, sustainable livelihoods and food security. The project pursues a participatory approach to ensure ownership by affected and targeted communities. The actual needs of target groups inform project activities. The principles of leaving-no-one-behind and do-no-harm are adhered to through the project’s firm focus on strengthening target group’s self-help capacities for an economical, ecological and social sustainable rural development.
The project consists of three components:

(1) The project supports the organizational development of the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA). The organization’s capacities to coordinate peacebuilding efforts in Plateau are strengthened, decentralized structures conceptualized and established, local mediators trained to mediate natural resource conflict, and advocacy and dialogue processes supported. To develop trauma processing and reconciliation structures the project partners with DWEC group.

(2) In cooperation with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), the project addresses the interrelation of peaceful coexistence, economic empowerment and livelihoods. Farmers and herders are trained in various aspects of sustainable agricultural practice, cooperatives and associations are strengthened and established, value chains and livelihoods diversified, traditional trade mechanisms revived and extended. Infrastructure and rehabilitation measures are implemented as Cash for Work activity. To strengthen peaceful coexistence, social and cultural exchange and dialogue between conflicting groups are enhanced, peace processes supported, and community events fostered.

(3) Civil Society actors and decision makers establish a joint context monitoring with the aim to enable informed and conflict sensitive decisions in the planning and implementation of conflict transformation processes. An impact evaluation (implemented in cooperation with GFA) provides an informed basis for decision making processes of future interventions in the highly volatile and fragile project context.

**Preliminary Results**

The PEACECORE team started working virtually in the midst of the COVID 19 lockdown in April 2020. Despite meeting restrictions, a participatory selection process to determine the project’s intervention areas was conducted and major partnerships for the implementation period 2021-2023 were established. The team set up its own project office in Jos and an international development worker joined the PPBA. Furthermore, activities were conducted to enhance conflict sensitive media reporting capacities in cooperation with SFCG.
Supporting the Nigerian Safe Schools Initiative (SSI)

The Challenge

As of September 2016, there were more than 1.7 million internally displaced persons in the states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa, which are most affected by the Boko Haram insurgency. Boko Haram strongly rejects western education and attacks public and private schools. In April 2014, more than 200 girls aged between 16 and 18 were abducted from a secondary school in the Nigerian town of Chibok by Boko Haram insurgents. Hundreds of schools and other educational facilities have been destroyed, school teachers killed and students kidnapped. Between 2009 and 2015, attacks in North-Eastern Nigeria destroyed more than 910 schools and forced at least 1,500 to close. This has left more than 600,000 school-age children without access to learning due to the conflict. This endangers the educational objectives of the government and denies the human right for education for a large number of Nigerian boys and girls.
Our Approach

The initiative seeks to improve the protection and safety of students, family members and teachers.

It focuses on:

- Rehabilitating the security infrastructure at schools and establishing community-orientated security concepts;
- Transferring students from high risk areas to safe schools and providing complementary trauma counselling; and
- Providing education for internally displaced persons in camps and communities.

GIZ was commissioned by the German Government to support the Students Transfer Component of the Safe Schools Initiative. Under this component, 2,400 students from high-risk areas in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states have been transferred to 43 partner schools in safe parts of the country. The intervention helps to ensure continued access of these students to quality education by covering essential costs for school fees, uniforms and other school attires, books and educational materials, amongst others.

More than 2,400 students have been transferred and given admission to government schools in safe parts of the country, where they receive comprehensive support.
The police in Africa currently face the following challenges. Staff are insufficiently trained, lack of adequate equipment to meet the needs of the organisation to tackle security challenges, and organisational structures and processes are not efficient enough. There is insufficient police presence and inadequate community policing, particularly in rural areas. Collaboration between investigators and prosecutors is also insufficient. The population has little trust in the work of the police especially due to human rights abuse.

Nigeria currently faces challenging security threats. Since 2011, the terrorist group Boko Haram presents one of the major threats to the security of the country and the whole region. At the same time, Nigeria’s stability is endangered by widespread organised crime. The Nigeria Police (NPF), and the Federal Ministry of Justice (FMoJ) are not sufficiently prepared to cope with these challenges and to ensure the security and safety of the population, as well as the administration of criminal justice.
Our Approach

In order to improve the quality of education and training, law enforcement agencies are supported in updating curricula and further training modules in areas such as forensics, criminal investigation, and human rights. Trainers of NPF take part in further training courses making them qualified for delivering the new contents to other employees of NPF.

The programme contributes to more transparent working procedures within law enforcement agencies based on universal human rights standards. Through sensitization trainings and refresher courses, human rights standards are mainstreamed into the NPF hierarchies. Processes are developed and implemented in order to strengthen legitimacy by increasing transparency, professionalism and proximity to citizens, as well as the criminal justice chain, thus strengthening the Rule of Law.

Additionally, cooperation mechanisms are established and strengthened between investigators and prosecutors, as well as between other law enforcement agencies aimed at dismantling barriers and at increasing transparency of the police as a service-oriented institution.

Over 1,000 law enforcement officers received training in criminal investigation and border management.
Good Governance

Supporting Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC)

The Challenge

President Muhammadu Buhari was re-elected for second term in March 2019. Despite his ambitious anti-corruption agenda and some successes in tackling impunity and graft, the public has been unimpressed by the perceived and real systemic corruption at all levels of public administration and in private sector. Civil Society and media have increasingly been the driving force in applying the pressure on the anti-corruption agencies and law enforcement to deal with wasteful management of public resources and systemic leakages. As a result, the public demands inquiry and tangible policy reforms in public expenditures in fields including defence and security, judiciary and legislative oversight - areas that had been until recent off-limits to public scrutiny. Despite reinvigorated public demand for greater accountability and visible results of the proclaimed anti-corruption effort, the response from the state actors has not been adequate to implement systemic solutions, which would address governance challenges.

Our Approach

GIZ supports CISLAC through the secondment of an integrated expert, placed by the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM), a collaboration between GIZ and the German Federal Employment Agency. The aim is to facilitate international networks and coordinate with Nigerian state- and non-state the response to Nigerian governance challenges.
CIM primarily supports CISLAC to become a fully-operational member (chapter) of Transparency International, the global leader in the anti-corruption and accountability domain. Secondly, the CIM integrated expert leads the anti-corruption department to build up critical anti-corruption expertise within the organisation. Lastly, management and organisational processes are supported to strengthen CISLAC’s ability to execute international, large-scale development projects.

Impact

CISLAC’s analytical and advocacy work in fields such as corruption in the defence sector, illicit financial flows, asset recovery, political corruption and penetration of organised crime into state- and non-state sectors has put CISLAC in the coordinating position of non-state actors in Nigeria. Position papers and reports have been presented in national and international forums such as the IMF/WB meetings, UN General Assembly side events, international conferences, etc.

In Nigeria, CISLAC works with other state- and non-state actors on the implementation of the National Harmonised Anti-Corruption Strategy, spearheaded by the Ministry of Justice. Committees and sub-committees of the National Assembly as well as law enforcement agencies and supreme audit institutions have become trusted partner of CISLAC in the implementation of specific governance reforms. CISLAC also pilots IT- and web-based, ‘disruptive’ technologies and other innovative tools to enable public involvement in order to increase demand for public accountability.
Good Governance

Support to Nigeria’s Supreme Audit Institution

The Challenge

With a tax-to-GDP ratio of 6%, Nigeria is well below the African average (around 15%). Fluctuating revenues from the extractive sector, which the country is highly dependent upon, worsen the situation. The revenue potential in Nigeria, therefore, is far from exhausted. Rather, insufficient mobilization of domestic revenues severely restricts the financing of public services. There is therefore increased pressure to optimize revenue collection.

Our Approach

GIZ supports the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation (OAUeGF) in the development and implementation of an IT Audit strategy, thus making the office ready to meet increased automation in Nigeria’s public finance processes, and consequently improve the quality of the audit of government revenue and expenditure.

The overall objective is to enhance the capacity of the OAUeGF to report on the collection of public revenues and to ensure that all federal government funds are accounted for.

20 Auditors trained on IT Audit, applications control and the IT Audit process. The project has supported the establishment of an IT audit unit and the adoption of an IT audit strategy as well.
To achieve this, a senior national expert has been embedded in the Office of the Auditor General to provide technical assistance in the planning, fieldwork and reporting phases of IT audit engagements. This should ultimately improve the reliability of IT audit assets and environment in Ministries’ Departments and Agencies (MDAs), thus contributing to an increase in the functioning and effectiveness of the OAuGFs’ work. In addition, short-term experts deliver revenue and IT audit related trainings. A study tour will be organised to give the management of the IT audit department an opportunity to understand the functioning of more mature audit institutions and learn from their experiences in setting up IT-audit structures and processes. The project is linked to the GIZ regional programme “Good Financial Governance in Africa”, which is based in Pretoria, South Africa.
Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) is increasingly becoming a key focus area for stakeholders involved in the health response of all countries and the on-going COVID-19 pandemic further highlighted the need for resilient and responsive health systems.

Thanks to investments by the Nigerian government, complemented by certain key players such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM); Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi); and the Global Financing Facility (GFF), tremendous progress has been made in addressing cross-cutting HSS gaps. Areas of support include service delivery, health workforce, health financing, access to essential medicines (lab and supply chain), health information systems and health governance. However, despite these investments, strategic gaps still appear which need to be addressed with specific technical assistance (TA) measures in order to enable proper implementation of health policies and strategies.
Our Approach

The renewed commission of BACKUP Health, which came into effect in April 2020 until August 2023, seeks to improve the capacity of state and civil society actors in selected countries towards utilising global health financing for strengthening national health systems. BACKUP focuses on providing TA to address strategic gaps identified in the area of governance, strategy development and implementation in the health systems, as well as strengthening institutions to optimise the use of resources in delivering quality services.

Over the period of the commission, the programme will support Nigeria along four intervention areas:

1. Strengthening national coordination of domestic and global health financing initiatives
2. Institutional capacity strengthening for national actors to better deliver on HSS strategies
3. Improving management of community-based integrated service delivery at decentralised levels
4. Reducing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the broader health system

The cooperation between BACKUP and the Nigerian health partners started in 2018, primarily focusing on support to GFATM partners and processes. With the new commission, the project has expanded towards supporting a wider range of stakeholders implementing approved national strategies funded by the government and other global financing mechanisms (Gavi, GFF etc).

BACKUP is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and co-financed by the United Kingdom's Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) as well as the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). Beside Nigeria, the programme operates in Cameroon, DR Congo, Kyrgyz Republic, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and provides demand-driven TA to a range of eligible countries.
Established in 1975, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has the purpose to promote “cooperation and integration, leading to the establishment of an economic union in West Africa in order to raise the living standards of its peoples”. Today, the ECOWAS consists of 15 Member States, the scope of its activities extends to economic, political, cultural and social aspects, such as the establishment of a customs union, peace keeping and conflict prevention or the development of a regional energy market. To promote regional integration the ECOWAS Member States have created a set of institutions and specialised agencies forming the ECOWAS Community with its headquarters based in Abuja/Nigeria.

GIZ has been working with ECOWAS since 2005. The project portfolio targets the following priority areas: Political and economic regional integration, public health, agriculture and energy. To support political and economic regional integration, GIZ implements five projects in three technical focus areas: organisational development, trade facilitation and economic development and peace and security. One project supports the regional pandemic preparedness and cooperates not only with the ECOWAS Commission, but also with the West African Health Organisation (WAHO).

Projects supporting ECOWAS in the area of energy are based in Benin. In addition, the ECOWAS Portfolio hosts project components based in Abuja, where ECOWAS is a beneficiary, but not the main partner for the project, such as the African Union Border Programme or the ECOWAS support in the area of agriculture through the Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI). Also, GIZ ECOWAS Projects deploy staff in various ECOWAS Member States, such as Liberia, Senegal or Burkina Faso, with the objective to support the implementation of regional protocols at the national level. Commissioning parties of projects in the GIZ ECOWAS portfolio are the German Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) and the German Federal Foreign Office. In addition, the majority of the projects is co-funded by the European Union. The current portfolio includes projects with an overall budget of close to 90.000.000 EUR. Additional funds are expected for 2020.
Our priority areas of cooperation with ECOWAS

- Regional Political Integration
- Trade and Economic Development
- Peace and Security
- Public Health

Current Area of (Project) Activities

State Capitals
Projects in Support of ECOWAS

Support to the ECOWAS Commission: Organisational Development

Support to ECOWAS: Promoting Trade in West Africa II

Regional Stabilisation and Development Fund in Fragile Regions in ECOWAS Member States
Support to ECOWAS: Peace and Security Architecture and Operations – EPSAO

Organised Crime: West African Response to trafficking – OCWAR-T

African Union Border Programme – AUBP

Support to Pandemic Prevention in the ECOWAS Region
In 1975 West African States created the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) with the objectives to promote peace and security in the region as well as improving the standard of living of the population through regional integration. As an intergovernmental community, ECOWAS operates with public funds provided by its member states and other public donors. To remain efficient and accountable towards the growing expectations of political stakeholders, ECOWAS management processes need to improve compliance with international standards, like strategic planning or HR and financial management. Several innovations and reforms have already affected ECOWAS’ institutional setting, like the creation of a new organisational chart, the introduction of SAP for financial management or the creation of a training centre for ECOWAS staff. The ongoing institutional reform has highlighted the need to improve the institutional capacities for a modern, result oriented management culture need to be strengthened.

GIZ has been strengthening institutional capacities at ECOWAS Commission as the executive body of the community since 2007. The Project Support to the ECOWAS Commission on Organisational Development is aiming at strengthening institutional capacities at the ECOWAS Commission and at the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID). Thus, the project seeks to improve strategic orientation and internal processes and the general shared organisational culture by employees towards effectiveness.
The activities target four core areas of organisational development:

- Development of the ECOWAS Vision 2050 and its strategic documents (funded by BMZ)
- Results-based management of the core processes of the ECOWAS Commission (funded by BMZ)
- Improve the training of ECOWAS staff on internal management processes (jointly funded by EU and BMZ)
- Strengthen public finance management compliant with international standards at ECOWAS and the EBID (jointly funded by EU and BMZ)

Funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and the European Union, the project has a budget of 10.3 million EUR, including 3.1 Mio. EUR Co-Funding by EU and a duration of 3.5 years from 03/2019 to 08/2022.
The Challenge

With its young and growing population and natural resources, West Africa has enormous potential for trade development, which is, however, yet to be fulfilled. West African trade is still characterized by a lack of appropriate policy framework and its effective implementation, resulting in high transaction costs, unpredictable tariffs and multiple non-tariff barriers. Additionally, customs connectivity along trade corridors is needed to facilitate the movement of intra-regional trade in West Africa.

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) aims to facilitate intra-regional trade among its 15 member states, leading to the establishment of a common market and customs union in West Africa. Support for ECOWAS trade facilitation provided by the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the European Union attempts to bring coordinated and far-reaching assistance to address the challenges of trade facilitation in the West African region.

The project Promoting Trade in West Africa II (WATIP II) is part of the larger Trade Facilitation West Africa Program (TFWA), which is a multi-donor initiative to improve efficient movement of goods in the ECOWAS region.
WATIP II supports the ECOWAS Commission in the following four technical areas:

1. Trade facilitation measures improved and more efficiently implemented:
   Support the development and implementation of regional trade facilitation policies and instruments such as the ECOWAS Customs Code, the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET) and the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS). Strengthen the capacities for monitoring and implementation of trade facilitation measures.

2. More efficient movement of goods along selected corridors:
   Support to the establishment of an interconnectivity system that allows for the automated transmission of customs and other border agency data as well as the implementation of a transit regime in order to facilitate the movement along the Dakar-Bamako Corridor.

3. Barriers for women and small-scale trader reduced:
   Strengthening the role and awareness of the private sector and civil society in regional and national dialogues on trade facilitation.

4. Effectively support ECOWAS taxation reforms
   in the context of its intra-regional trade liberalization and trade facilitation policies in order to provide support to broadening the tax base, thereby increasing the national tax revenue.
The Challenge

The demographic development in the ECOWAS presents a massive challenge. Access to income, education and social protection, competition for food and resources, increasing conflict patterns and consequently migration, are just a few of the scenarios. In the future, the ECOWAS plans to increasingly support economic and social initiatives that serve to both prevent and respond to crises and conflicts. Within the framework of a joint programme, KfW and GIZ advise the ECOWAS Commission to establish a funding mechanism to react to socio-economic crisis and support the implementation of pilot projects at the same time.

Our Approach

The project aims to strengthen the capacities of the ECOWAS Commission and selected member states for shaping economic and social stabilisation processes in the region. The programme supports the establishment of a funding mechanism, a quick and flexible, efficient and effective tool to prevent and re-act to socio-economic crisis in the ECOWAS member states. This includes organisational development at the level of the ECOWAS Commission as well as Capacity Development measures of ECOWAS employees in fund and project management. At the same time, it is piloting a measure in The Gambia to improve the employment situation among young people, including returnees. Target group are people affected by societal crises and their economic consequences in West Africa.
The Pilot Project in The Gambia

The pilot programme in The Gambia supports skills development along the horticulture (fruit and vegetables), poultry farming and fishing/fish farming value chains. It targets up to 3,000 young people within the duration of the project. In addition to the capacity building component of the programme, measures to provide information on financial services, mini-grants for small appliances in the agricultural sector, life skills, psycho-social services, etc. will be developed. Synergies are built with the FC window in the Gambia by incorporating the target groups that benefit from development schemes (infrastructure, equipment, material, maintenance and repair) in three regions in the Gambia. In consequence, the aligned programme measures contribute to improving the socio/economic context of the target group in The Gambia.
The Challenge

West Africa continues to struggle with old and new forms of conflict and insecurity, including violent extremism, communal violence, piracy, organised crime, political violence and conflicts over land and other resources. Most of these challenges cannot be solved by one country alone but require the institutions and member states of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to devise and implement joint regional strategies.

Against this background, the **ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (EPSAO)** project supports the ECOWAS Commission in its mandate to prevent and manage conflict and security threats in West Africa.
EPSAO cooperates with the ECOWAS Commission and training centres across the region to offer needs-based training for the ECOWAS Standby Force aimed at enhancing deployment readiness. EPSAO also supports ECOWAS’ efforts to establish an encompassing network of regional and national early warning centres and to strengthen regional and national capacities in mediation and conflict prevention. The project works with the ECOWAS Commission, electoral management bodies and civil society to prevent electoral violence. EPSAO finally supports the implementation of ECOWAS’ policy for security sector reform and governance, both at the regional level and in The Gambia.

**Impact in Stories**

Women remain under-represented in peace processes in West Africa, even though the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSC) 1325 affirmed that peace and security efforts are more sustainable when women are equal partners at every step to forge lasting peace.

Their absence is among others based on a lack of capacity, power and access. Through capacity development for the members of the FemWise West Africa Network, a network of female mediators in the ECOWAS-region, the EPSAO projects contributes to closing the gap between aspiration and reality when it comes to participation of women in peace processes.
The Challenge

Transnational Organised Crime (TOC) is a key issue in the West African region. It poses a grave threat to human security, public health, and governmental stability. The ECOWAS Region is faced with a multi-faceted phenomenon that requires a coherent response on international, regional and national level. Jointly funded by the European Union and the German Federal Foreign Government, the OCWAR-T project aims at strengthening regional governance in combating transnational organised crime and trafficking. The project supports state agencies specialised in combating these threats to enhance the capacity of member states in the ECOWAS Region. OCWAR-T joins forces with legal enforcement agencies, judiciaries, civil society organisations and research institutions to ensure in-depth progress.

Our Approach

To achieve its objectives OCWAR-T carries out activities to:

- Strengthen collaboration and information exchange between law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and the judiciary
- Raise awareness and strengthens regional and cross-border cooperation to reduce illicit trafficking of small arms
- Increase coordination and cooperation between member states to prevent, investigate and prosecute trafficking in persons
- Improve the knowledge base on root causes and impact of TOC through research and independent oversight mechanisms
Five specialised organisations (GIZ, UNODC, UNDP, MAG and ICMPD) provide technical advisory services in these four technical areas. The principal political partner is the ECOWAS Commission, specifically the Department of Political Affairs Peace and Security (PAPS) and the Social Affairs and Gender Department.

The primary beneficiaries include law enforcement agencies, National Commissions on small arms and light weapons (NatComs), judiciaries, selected civil society organisations and research institutions in the ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania.

Strengthening collaboration between law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and the judiciary
The Challenge

Only a third of African borders are clearly delimited and demarcated. The AU considers poorly defined borders as potential sources of conflict, threatening peace and security, and impeding integration especially when natural resources are discovered in the border regions. Unclear boundaries endanger peace and security and hinder regional integration, economic growth and development.

Our Approach

In 2007, the African Union launched the **AUBP** as a direct response to these risks. Since 2008, the project has supported the implementation of the border programme at several levels:

- **Support to AU member states:**
  The project currently supports 25 African countries in defining, demarcating and managing their borders. The project also supports partner countries in implementing and expanding cross-border cooperation and in the elaboration of local agreements and development plans, as an important contribution to combating the root causes of forced displacement. In addition, the project promotes joint border management by various actors, including border police, customs, mayors as well as women’s associations and youth organisations.
Cooperation with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Western and Eastern Africa:
In this regard, the focus lies on the development and harmonization of common guidelines for integrated border management. The regional organisations are also assisted in playing an active role in the resolution of border disputes.

Strengthening of the AU Commission:
The project advises on the development and implementation of policies and strategies, such as the AU Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation (Niamey Convention), as well as on organisational development. In addition, the project supports the development of the AU Border Information System (AUBIS). It also promotes cooperation between the AU and African as well as European universities and training institutes.

Results in Stories
“In the past, people had to wait hours or even days at the border crossing because they had to go through the same process in Tanzania after completing their checks in Kenya,” says Dishon Njuguna, customs officer on the border between Kenya and Tanzania.


In order to facilitate a faster crossing of the border for persons and goods, a new border control system between Kenya and Tanzania was introduced in October 2017 with the support of the project. The introduction of a “One Stop Border Post”, in which goods and persons are controlled only once by a team of Kenyan and Tanzanian officials, allows to pass the border much faster.

The opening of the One Stop Border Post intensified economic relations between the two countries.

“The new border post greatly facilitated the exchange of people and goods between Kenya and Tanzania. We operate day and night and allow 150 to 200 trucks a day and 1,500 people to cross the border,” says Dishon Njuguna.
Our Approach

The RPPP Programme includes the Action of the European Union ‘Support to the Regional Centre for Surveillance and Disease Control (RCSDC) in the ECOWAS Zone’ and assists the ECOWAS Commission, the West African Health Organisation (WAHO) and the Regional Centre for Surveillance and Disease Control (RCSDC) in supporting ECOWAS Member States to better control infectious disease outbreaks according to the International Health Regulations. This includes the support to National Public Health Institutes in Member States which are connected to the Regional Centre. Special attention is given to Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Togo, Nigeria and Ghana. The aim is to strengthen WAHO and national actors to better fulfill their mandates and to support Member States together with the Regional Centre.
Impact in Figures ...

As part of a joint programme involving German development cooperation actors and the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), RPPP aims at protecting the population of the ECOWAS Region, estimated at over 350 million people, better against infectious disease outbreaks. To achieve this, RPPP has supported the West African Health Organisation and the Regional Centre in the development of 2 regional strategies on health risks communication and the coordination between health actors at regional and national levels and the concept for deployment procedures for the Regional Rapid Response Team of WAHO. The digital tool for infectious diseases surveillance and outbreak management, SORMAS is being rolled out in Nigeria in currently 217 Local Government Areas (LGAs) as well as in Ghana in currently 34 districts under RPPP support. Additionally, SORMAS-open is now being piloted in Ghana. SORMAS can be used for 10 priority diseases relevant for the West African region.

... and in Stories

To contribute to the fight against the COVID19 pandemic, the project has shifted resources and activities to support ECOWAS and Member States in their outbreak prevention and response. RPPP’s commissioning parties also have made additional funds available to support the ECOWAS/WAHO emergency fund. Urgently needed materials and personal protective equipment valued at over 2 Mio. Euros have already been procured and distributed to all 15 Member States by the West African Health Organisation. Additional deliveries of equipment procured with BMZ and EU- funding are expected in Q4 2020. Risk Communication materials have been produced and distributed at regional ECOWAS level and in the countries in order to inform and combat rumours and fake news around COVID19. The winner team of the Nigeria Hackathon which RPPP conducted together with GFA developed a product which was used in the outbreak response by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC): the web-based platform Infodemics including a tracker function collates and disseminates real-time information. Citizens can submit potential fake news and rumours to the platform so that the NCDC can review them and react. This supports rumour monitoring and management.

SORMAS- open can now serve 10 priority diseases including Monkey Pox, which was added as an ad hoc element during the latest outbreak.
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