

Presentation of the GIZ Annual Report 2010
by the Chairman of the GIZ Management Board, Dr Bernd Eisenblätter,
at the annual press conference
on 5 July 2011 in Berlin, Federal Press Conference building

Check against delivery!

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am very pleased to be able to welcome you here and to join with you in looking back over the first few months of the new GIZ.

Since the start of the year, we have been the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, or GIZ for short. So for six months now, GIZ has brought together under one roof the capacities and long-standing experience of the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED) gGmbH (German Development Service), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH and InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany. Many of you may be asking yourselves: ‘What is new? What has changed? And has the merger achieved anything?’ This is what I would like to speak to you about.

First let me turn to what is new. As a federal enterprise, we are now supporting the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development even more efficiently: providing our great variety of services *from a single source*.

What is also new – and this derives from our new corporate purpose – is the broader range of thematic areas and our expanded scope for action. In future, for example, we will increasingly offer our long-standing experience in international cooperation for sustainable development in emerging economies, such as Brazil, and in industrialised countries. We will also significantly expand our activities in the field of international education work – both abroad *and* in Germany.

In GIZ, we have created something new – it is more than just a large unified whole made up of three individual parts. We are utilising the know-how of our staff members to jointly develop new, innovative and effective services. The aim is to provide the German Government with even better support. Instead of treading well-worn paths, this is about blazing new trails. The result is already becoming apparent in many places, such as in relation to education or on the matter of raw material partnerships. Let me explain the new developments with the aid of a few examples.

Firstly, let's take education and leadership. These are areas that we will be expanding on at GIZ Bonn, where our education-related services are primarily to be based. We will also step up our activities and innovative offers for leadership training. This includes, for example, services aimed at preparing people for assignments abroad – experts from the fields of development cooperation, international cooperation and the private sector – and services for young Germans looking to acquire international expertise abroad. And we will also be promoting joint learning by management executives from developing countries and industrialised countries.

Another new area is that of global raw material partnerships. Through its raw materials strategy, the German Government is aiming to secure the sustainable supply of non-energy mineral resources for Germany. At the new GIZ, we are able to offer ideal support for this: by getting the private sector and our partner countries to sit down at a table together and advising partner countries on the sustainable use of their raw materials in a manner that serves the common good. In this, we can build on experience that we have gathered on behalf of BMZ in the Congo, Mongolia and Afghanistan, for example, and we can make this available to others.

We have also intensified cooperation with the private sector on behalf of the German Government. Both at chambers of industry and commerce in Germany and at German chambers of commerce abroad there are now contacts who provide specialist advice to the private sector on the opportunities available for supporting, financing and stabilising investment in developing and emerging economies. The response is extraordinarily positive. And we are further expanding this service.

With its broader range of tasks, the new organisation is also increasingly moving into the mainstream of society. A large number of development workers placed via GIZ and volunteers from the *weltwärts* programme are currently working in partner countries, where they bring their expertise and commitment to bear in the heart of those societies. Last year there were 1,111 development workers and over 821 young *weltwärts* volunteers. After their return to Germany, they discuss their experiences and, in so doing, promote the issue of development cooperation in German society. They take part in numerous events for young and old in all parts of Germany, inform their audiences about their work abroad and report on how development cooperation works in practice. A further 1,846 integrated, returning and local experts also apply their know-how to strengthening our partner countries on the ground. They complement our own staff, which is made up of 5,042 GIZ employees and 12,254 national personnel (total: 17,296).

All in all, therefore, some 21,070 individuals contribute to improving people's living conditions locally (as at 31 December 2010). Of these, 85 % work abroad and 15 % (3,221 staff members) in Germany. In addition, more than 52,000 people took part in practical training schemes organised by GIZ in Germany and abroad last year.

You may now, of course, be asking yourselves, 'Doesn't having so many staff also mean increasing bureaucracy?' The opposite is the case. Subject to the approval of the relevant bodies we will have dismantled all duplicate structures in Germany by 1 September; the deadline for structures outside Germany is 1 January 2012. As a result there will be ten percent fewer organisational units than in the three predecessor organisations. The new GIZ will therefore be more streamlined.

Right from the beginning of the year, our own planning processes have been gaining in efficiency. Abroad, the three previous organisations often sat down at one table anyway. Now they plan all projects jointly from the outset. The joint monitoring of the results of projects and joint learning from the outcomes of our projects has now also begun. Our staff undertook joint interim assessments of ongoing projects back in February. It has also become simpler for our local partners: instead of having three people to deal with, they now talk to just one GIZ representative, which makes consultation and coordination more efficient. Finally, cooperation with GIZ has also become simpler for our clients. Today, for example, our main commissioning party – if you will allow me this reference, State Secretary – now receives only one project offer and no longer three. This improves efficiency and boosts the steering ability of BMZ.

So a great deal has already changed at the new GIZ. Of course, after just six months it is not yet possible to clarify all questions surrounding integration – and we are not yet exploiting all potential synergies. Nevertheless, we already have plenty to show for what we have done, and we are moving ahead on the path to integration as planned.

We should not forget that we are carrying out this integration while maintaining business operations. Despite the continuing processes of change, we are delivering high-quality services to our clients. This task should not be underestimated: the business volume – which corresponds to total turnover – of the three predecessor organisations amounted to nearly 1.9 billion euros last year (to be precise: 1.852 billion euros). Of this, 68 % came from our main commissioning party, BMZ. Ten percent was contributed by other federal ministries, including above all the Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Ministry of Defence and the Federal Ministry of the Interior. Around 15 % of turnover was with foreign governments or international organisations such as the EU or the UN. A further eight percent was attributable to cofinancing, through which international donors participate in

ongoing projects that the German Government finances. In the current year, we are also seeing strong demand for our services. We are therefore anticipating our turnover to increase yet again.

Let me illustrate this with some current examples.

Take Afghanistan. The city of Mazar-e Sharif is expected to be transferred to Afghan administration in the coming weeks. We have supported the Afghans in taking this important step, on behalf of BMZ – among other things through an education programme at a new training facility. We have trained almost 2,000 students as teachers there. We have also provided further training for 440 teachers in Mazar-e Sharif and another 1,000 at five other training centres in the country. They are now all passing on their knowledge to schoolchildren who are keen to learn – and in that way are building the future of their country together. This gives us confidence.

Let us look at South Sudan, where we have been working for a long time. In four days' time the country will take a historic step into independence. We will therefore be further intensifying our activities there. In the town of Lui, for example, in the west of the country, the 17,000 residents will have good-quality drinking water by the end of the year. GIZ, the municipality of Lui, the South Sudanese Ministry of Water and the World Bank signed a cooperation agreement in Juba on 1 April 2011. One way in which the project is being financed is by the residents of Lui collecting donations, including from the diaspora. A sum of around 200,000 euros was collected in just a few months. To enable the community to maintain the supply system itself after the project term ends, our experts transfer the necessary specialist knowledge to the local people and give them practical training.

There is no question that investment in functioning state structures is hugely important for the development of a state. For this reason, we are working on behalf of the Federal Foreign Office on building a civilian police force committed to the principles of the rule of law in the Palestinian territories. The objective is a citizen-oriented police force that cooperates with judges, public prosecutors and the judiciary and provides the population with the security it desires and expects.

The European Commission also relies on services from GIZ. We have once again been commissioned to implement the TAIEX programme, for example. This programme helps EU accession countries to align national law with EU legislation ('acquis communautaire'). In May the contract was extended by a further 14 months; the value of the order is 30 million euros.

The success that we were able to achieve last year is founded on the high levels of competence displayed by our staff. Day in, day out, they contribute to putting sustainable development into practice. I owe them my gratitude, and thank them wholeheartedly. It is clear to us that GIZ growing

together demands a lot of our staff: a process of this nature calls for a blend of openness, willingness to change and equanimity at a time when many questions do not yet have an answer. After all, these can only be answered one at a time. I would like to thank all members of staff for overcoming these challenges together. We can have every confidence as we look to the future of our organisation. We are well positioned to make an even better contribution in future to supporting the German Government in the achievement of its goals in international cooperation for sustainable development and in international education through expertise, dedication and a spirit of innovation.