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Dear Sir or Madam,

After reaching a high of nearly 11 per cent in 2013, unemployment in the EU has fallen continuously to its current level of around 6.7 per cent. The statistics also show that in 2017 almost 20 per cent of the population were aged 65 or over. Increasingly, many EU states are evolving into ageing societies.

From a global perspective, however, the situation is completely different. According to the United Nations, under-15s made up 41 per cent of the total African population in 2017. It follows that over the coming years and decades many millions of people will enter the continent's labour market in need of jobs that do not currently exist. Even today, there are not enough jobs, and many people who are in work have very little protection.

To address this problem, German development cooperation agencies are working with partner countries, education and training establishments and, increasingly, the private sector to create new jobs and better working conditions. They are also helping (potential) employees to acquire urgently needed skills to improve their chances on the labour market.

Read on to find out more about how we are tackling the issue of employment worldwide.

We hope you find this issue of the newsletter interesting and informative.

Your GIZ compass editorial team

## **In this issue:**

### **In focus**

- » Georgia: Tradition meets modernity to produce great wine
- » Mongolia: Technology classes can be fun!
- » Africa: The prospect of a decent future
- » Worldwide: Global impact – boosting the incomes of 3.8 billion people

### **Panorama**

- » Worldwide: Diplomatic endeavours

### **In brief**

- » Supporting more women into employment in the MENA region
- » Further reading: Collaboration with the private sector – the key to a sustainable future
- » Review: Alternative development and a red phone

## **In focus**

### **Tradition meets modernity to produce great wine**

#### **Georgian winegrowers are benefiting from dual vocational training and joint marketing activities**



Photo: ©GIZ

In Georgia, kvevri wine has been produced in clay amphoras ever since ancient times. The earthenware vessels are buried in the ground, where the wine ferments. Although this traditional method of wine-making goes back a long way, there are not enough workers with the required skills. Located in the South Caucasus, Georgia is emerging as an important producer on the world stage with annual exports of 76 million bottles. For many years, there was no system of practical training based on modern techniques.

Fortunately, that has now changed. The first dual vocational training programme for budding winegrowers was set up towards the end of 2016. Although students learn all the theory in the classroom, they acquire most of the practical skills they need at 17 different companies. The three-year programme was established with support from GIZ and currently provides training for 40 apprentices. A further 160 apprentices are following dual vocational training courses in other sectors such as hospitality and construction.

GIZ has been commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to implement a series of measures designed to support private-sector development and vocational training in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Additional funding is provided by the EU. The three countries learn from each other. Our job is to help them improve their vocational training systems, develop sustainable business models and become more competitive, with the ultimate goal of building a stable economy and creating more good-quality jobs. In Georgia, for example, up to 15 dual training courses are being introduced in the wine, construction, tourism, IT and logistics industries.

In the Georgian wine sector, the focus is also on raising standards, expanding organic production, encouraging wine tourism and complying with the EU's trade regulations. Goals such as these can often be achieved more effectively through collaboration. With support from the programme, 12 producers have joined forces to set up a kvevri wine cluster. By working together, they have improved the quality of their produce for international markets and consequently increased both their sales volume and revenue. Within just two years, the amount of wine they sell in the EU has risen by 68 per cent and their revenue by 121 per cent. Tourism is another key factor in their success. In just two years, the number of visitors has tripled to 2,700.

**Further information:**

- » [More on the programme on Private Sector Development](#)
- » [and Technical Vocational Education and Training, South Caucasus](#)
- » [Programme website](#)

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## **Technology classes can be fun! Mongolia invests in the quality of training for technical occupations**

'In the technology sector, it's vital to invest in people, not just in the latest machines and tools,' asserts Munkhtuya Urtnasan. For the last 10 years, she has been training vocational students in electrical engineering at Darkhan-Uul Energy and Mining Polytechnic College in the northern Mongolian province of the same name. Munkhtuya's goal is to pass on her knowledge to her apprentices and establish mechanisms for sharing information and experience. She regularly brings together teachers, students and practitioners from the technology sector so that they can all learn from each other.



Photo: ©GIZ CVT project

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and in collaboration with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), GIZ is helping Mongolia to establish professional development courses for vocational school teachers such as Munkhtuya. She is one of over 3,000 people to benefit from various skills development courses aimed at teachers, school managers, in-company trainers and decision-makers in Mongolia's TVET sector. The objective is to match the training available to the needs of the labour market and make technical careers more attractive for young adults. Today, after a long period during which there were very few opportunities for practical, work-based training, the country needs around 40,000 skilled workers to meet the demand for industrial mechanics, mechatronics technicians, plumbers and welders.

Training courses are now designed to be much more practical, and there is a greater focus on building and maintaining links between the vocational colleges and the business community. To date, over 10,000 students have benefited from the programme. To provide a clearer picture of what each career

involves and encourage young people to consider vocational training, the programme has also set up a careers advice service, digital information packages and short courses for jobseekers.

**Further information:**

» [Cooperative Vocational Training in the Mineral Resource Sector](#)

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## The prospect of a decent future

**As part of the Trust Fund for Africa, Germany and the EU are working to improve training and stimulate job creation**



Photo: ©GIZ/PARSE Project

Many countries of the Sahel, North Africa and the Horn of Africa are severely affected by displacement and migration – either as the source of those movements or as transit or host states. There are many different reasons why people decide to move elsewhere. One of those can be a lack of jobs and economic prospects.

The Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) was set up by the EU in 2015, with additional funding from member states. It aims to improve living conditions and promote good governance in the region. GIZ is currently implementing 19 projects with EUTF funding and additional financial support from either the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) or the Federal Foreign Office (AA).

Some of these measures are designed to create jobs and improve vocational education and training.

One such project is based in Eastern Sudan, where large numbers of local people and refugees are in search of work. Unfortunately, there are very few jobs available, and many people lack the required skills. Under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), GIZ is developing one-year vocational training courses leading to potential work in skilled manual trades, services and small businesses as well as three-month courses that provide a basic qualification. To date, 210 people have completed the three-month courses. In light of the interest shown by the Sudanese government, GIZ is now supporting a nationwide rollout of the curricula developed for these courses. The first-ever jobs fair was held in the state of Al Qadarif. The event brought together 500 potential employees and 30 employers.

In Cameroon (Central Africa), the primary focus is on young people, a great many of whom are unemployed with few prospects. Decisions on political and social matters are frequently taken by elders, and there is little trust between the generations. GIZ is supporting the efforts of youth organisations to overcome that loss of trust. Their involvement in community decision-making has been strengthened by setting up 22 dialogue forums on issues such as gender, education, civil rights and entrepreneurship. This gives them an opportunity to make a positive contribution to the wider dialogue and to peaceful coexistence.

The project is also helping 5,000 young people to set up their own business. Over 4,000 of them have already received start-up support in the form of training, certificates, materials and advice.

**Further information:**

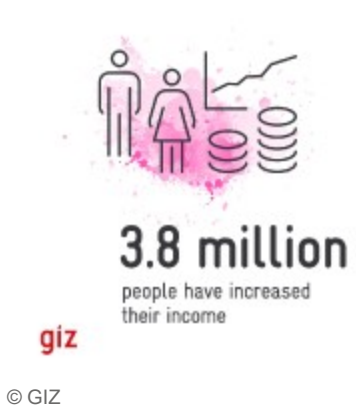
- » [EUTF factsheet](#) (PDF, English, 1.58 MB)
- » [EUTF factsheet](#) (PDF, French, 1.56 MB)
- » [European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#)

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- » Improving the living conditions of disadvantaged youth in northern Cameroon
- » Sudan: [detlef.barth@giz.de](mailto:detlef.barth@giz.de),
- » Improving the living conditions of refugees and host communities in eastern Sudan



**Global impact – boosting the incomes of 3.8 billion people**  
**The Evaluation Unit outlines GIZ’s contribution to positive change and how the figures are calculated**



We know that individual projects and programmes can produce impressive results. But what changes is GIZ actually helping to deliver around the world in conjunction with its clients and partners? To answer this question, the company conducts regular surveys spanning all its projects and partner countries. These are used to produce sets of ‘aggregate results data’, including statistics that reveal the impact of its activities in the fields of education and employment.

Between 2015 and 2017, for example, GIZ projects helped to boost the incomes of 3.8 billion people around the world. During this period, thanks to the support they received, 970,000 people found a new job, while almost the same number were able to improve their working conditions. 460,000 women and men attended vocational training courses for at least one year. A further one million received in-

work training.

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**Lennart Bendfeldt-Huthmann from GIZ’s Evaluation Unit explains how the information is compiled.**

*Could you tell us briefly why GIZ collects global results data?*

**Bendfeldt-Huthmann:** We want to help bring about positive, long-term changes together with our partners. That’s why we conduct regular reviews of our work. Everything we achieve in a particular country or a particular project is carefully documented. Thanks to the results data, we can also see and demonstrate the impact of our work all over the world. We collect data in 10 key selected areas. Apart from education and employment, that includes data on issues such as the climate, energy, health and displacement. This also means we can provide a detailed response to any questions we receive from the public or our clients.



Lennart Bendfeldt-Huthmann. Photo: © Nathan Dreessen

*How exactly do you obtain the data?*

**Bendfeldt-Huthmann:** Our projects operate in a range of priority areas. Project managers enter the data into an IT tool for all those areas in which they achieve results. All the entries are then checked, aggregated and then published. We can only combine the data if we are satisfied that the terms and calculation methods being used are clear and have been interpreted in the same way by all project managers. For this reason, whenever we request data, we always use an approved questionnaire with uniform indicators, definitions and key questions. To give you an example, we say exactly what we mean – and what we don’t mean – by the



term 'improved working conditions'.

Even so, if the data is not plausible or if we have any unresolved questions, members of the team with an expert knowledge of the issue will get in touch with project managers to discuss the matter and, if necessary, work with them to adjust the data. Once we have conducted those plausibility checks, we then have a definitive set of figures.

*Are there any restrictions on how you compile the data and use the results?*

**Bendtfeldt-Huthmann:** This time we compiled the results achieved by over 1,800 ongoing and completed projects from 2015 to 2017. The data show us the actual situation at the time of survey, not how things have changed over the term of the project. That's because our projects run for different lengths of time and have different end dates. It follows that the data we compile in one survey can't be compared with the data from another. It's also clear that in some areas – advising on policy, for example – the question of whether an objective or particular results have been achieved cannot be answered until much later. Given that each survey only covers certain themes, it's important to see the data as just one part of our entire portfolio. As we know, GIZ implements projects in many more priority areas.

**Further information:**

» [www.giz.de/results](http://www.giz.de/results)

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## Panorama

### Diplomatic endeavours

#### GIZ is advising the G7 and G20 on marine pollution and plastics management



Photo: ©GIZ/Florian Kopp

Plastic waste – not just in our oceans but on land, too – is a global problem with both local and regional origins. On average, everyone in Germany generates around 220 kilograms of plastic waste per year. The issue has featured prominently on the political agenda over recent months, and in December the EU agreed to ban a range of single-use plastics. Shortly before this, the German Federal Environment Ministry (BMU) put forward a five-point plan to combat unnecessary plastic waste and increase recycling rates.

GIZ has been working in the waste sector for around 30 years and advises governments on the issue. Effective waste management and recycling systems are a vital part of any strategy to reduce the amount of waste ending up in the sea. GIZ also supports the policy dialogue

between states and organisations. Last summer, for example, in collaboration with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK), the Ecologic Institute and the consulting firm adelphi, GIZ International Services began advising the European Commission on environmental diplomacy issues linked to G7 and G20 processes. The EU uses these multilateral summits as an opportunity to share examples of good practice and strategies, embed its own key points into the process and establish new partnerships. Over the next three years, it will continue to do so with the help of the partners listed above. The focus will be on four specific themes: marine waste and plastics management, resource efficiency, the green circular economy and green financing. There are plans for a range of dialogue formats and events covering each of these themes as well as a programme of visits to EU member states by representatives of G20 countries to familiarise them with the strategies and measures

being adopted across the EU.

**Further reading online:**

» [Short-term action, long-term thinking](#). Interview with Arno Tomowski (GIZ) on plastic waste in our oceans

**Further information:**

» [GIZ International Services](#)

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**In brief**

**Supporting more women into employment in the MENA region  
Capacity4Change – current discussion group meetings**

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) countries continue to have the world's lowest rates of female participation in economic activity, despite modernisation and advances in the field of education. Business leaders and policy-makers are looking to change this, for example by integrating women more effectively into the economy and introducing gender diversity management approaches within companies. What shape might those approaches take? Back in November, various ideas were put forward by the EU, GIZ, Commerzbank and the Moroccan Bank for Commerce and Industry (BMCI) at a Capacity4Change (C4C) event held in Brussels. You can find a report on the meeting together with a recording of the discussions on the GIZ website. There you can also find details of the next C4C event on 26 February, when GIZ and Conservation International will host a meeting to discuss sustainable agricultural supply chains and anti-deforestation measures.



Photo: ©GIZ

**Further information:**

- » [Review of the November meeting](#)
- » [Register for the next C4C event on 26 February](#)

**More about the EconoWin project:**

- » [Economic integration of women in the MENA region](#)

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**Further reading: Collaboration with the private sector –  
the key to a sustainable future  
A win-win arrangement**



To achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), there is a need to work with the private sector and promote its engagement. In its latest discussion paper, the think tank Friends of Europe highlights the important role of public-private partnerships in implementing the 2030 Agenda. In an article starting on page 27, GIZ contributors Katharina Braig, Bernhard von der Haar and Peter Wunsch examine

how structures can be designed to support the private sector and what has been learned up to now. They also outline good examples of collaboration with the private sector. These include the development cooperation scout programme and develoPPP.de programme, both implemented by GIZ on behalf of BMZ.

**Further information:**

» Discussion paper on the [Friends of Europe website](#)

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**Review: Alternative development and a red phone  
From Brussels to Bolivia and Peru and back:  
The end-of-year event at GIZ's Brussels Representation**

The around 100 guests attending the end-of-year reception at GIZ's Brussels Representation in early December were caught off guard with a series of unusual questions, challenges and the sudden ring of a red rotary-dial telephone. This time, the event played host to the Brachland Ensemble, a performing troupe that addresses social issues, improvises or uses its own unique methods to encourage exchange. In Brussels, the four artists took the guests on an interactive journey towards sustainable and effective approaches to alternative development. The concept behind it aims to improve the socio-economic conditions for farmers in drug cultivation areas and enable them to get away from the world of cultivating narcotic crops such as coca and opium poppy. Besides the performances, an exhibition on the life of smallholders in Latin America and Asia illustrated the opportunities and challenges they face.



Photo: ©GIZ/Thomas Blariau



**Partnership with the EU and events in Brussels**

See [www.giz.de/eu](http://www.giz.de/eu) for more information on GIZ's links with the EU and on the latest events and news from Brussels.





## About GIZ

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is a global service provider in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development and education work with over 19,500 employees in around 120 countries. GIZ is a public-benefit federal enterprise. It supports the German Government and many public and private sector clients such as the European Union in a wide variety of areas, including economic development and employment, energy and the environment, and peace and security.



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