



Multi-stakeholder partnerships

Advisory service

The challenge

Governments around the world are facing challenges they cannot overcome on their own: Climate change, uncertain markets, migration flows and more.

For sustainable development to succeed the public and private sector, the scientific community and civil society must work together to meet these challenges. This is one of the key messages of the 2030 Agenda, which calls for more multi-stakeholder partnerships to achieve its ambitious goals. Different stakeholders have both varying perspectives on social, ecological and economic issues, as well as approaches to address these. This diversity is the added value of multi-stakeholder partnerships, but it also makes for a challenging collaboration. Experience shows, however, that even very divergent stakeholders can agree on and achieve a common objective if they are convinced that their joint effort is worthwhile and that the partnership can succeed.

Our approach

This is where GIZ can help: You focus on content and we design the process together with you. Here we support you as coordinators, facilitators and advisors, drawing on our many years of experience and expertise in managing partnerships.

We help you build multi-stakeholder partnerships that bring together actors from the public sector and private sector, the scientific community and civil society. We help you achieve measurable results from their synergy. Our support provides a space in which all partners can bring in their perspectives as equals. This enables them to identify problems holistically, to take decisions and develop ownership together.

Our services

Involving stakeholders

We advise you on identifying and involving the stakeholders that are relevant for achieving your project's objective. Successful cooperation hinges on making the perspectives and interests of all stakeholders transparent and building mutual trust.

Process management and secretariat

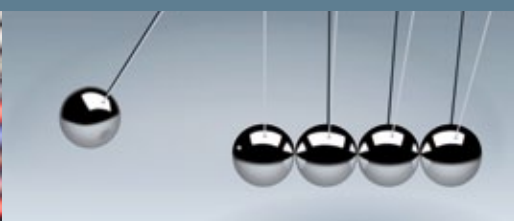
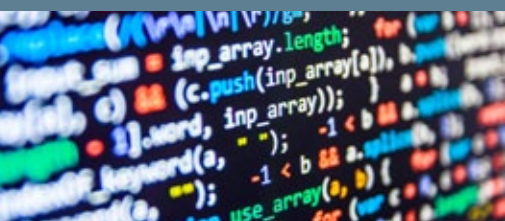
We take care of organising events and committee meetings and facilitate cooperation between partners. We support you in defining common objectives and in negotiating, determining and activating implementation processes and management mechanisms. We pool and coordinate individual activities already being undertaken by partners in order to achieve broader results.

Capacity development and methodology services

We support you in building a joint monitoring system in order to identify and analyse progress and results. This makes it easier to steer the measures of the multi-stakeholder partnership and ensures that they are in line with the partnership's objectives. If needed, we offer individual partners training and advice to strengthen their institutions.

Communication

We document (interim) results, exemplary processes and successfully completed activities and advise you on developing a communication strategy and deploying the appropriate instruments for it.



Your benefits

A successful multi-stakeholder partnership ensures that solutions are developed and implemented, which are only possible through joint effort. The results are more robust and viable in the long term than unilateral decisions. In addition, you as a stakeholder benefit from the partnership by using the results and lessons learned from the cooperation to develop your own strategies further and make them sustainable.

We establish structures that involve all stakeholders equally. Partners benefit from the embedding of developmental themes within society and from the high legitimacy of results. We balance broad participation and effective implementation, so you obtain demonstrable results.

An example from the field

Products containing cocoa are very popular with consumers, but the living and working conditions of cocoa farmers in the growing regions are often difficult and production frequently involves environmentally harmful practices. In Germany, one of the world's biggest export markets for cocoa, several institutions and businesses have already taken the first steps to establish sustainable cocoa production. However, this is not achievable unless all stakeholders cooperate. That is why the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa was established. It is a multi-stakeholder partnership that combines private sector enterprises, the German Federal Government (represented by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture), the food retail

industry, NGOs and standard setting organisations.

Its aim is to improve the living conditions of the cocoa farmers and their families, to conserve natural resources and biodiversity in producer countries, and to increase the cultivation and marketing of sustainable cocoa. Close cooperation with producer countries is crucial for the success of this multi-stakeholder partnership.

The GIZ provides the secretariat for the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa and arranges stakeholder cooperation. This allows the partners to develop solutions together in order to promote more sustainable cocoa production:

- » The partnership developed best-practice criteria to create a basis for cooperation in sustainable cocoa cultivation.
- » Together with the Ivorian and German government, the partnership initiated a project to professionalize cocoa cultivation. Its aim is to increase family incomes and improve living and working conditions in the growing areas.
- » The partnership supports a supra-regional capacity building initiative that aims to train cocoa farmers in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria in sustainable growing methods and good farm management, and prepare them for possible certification.

More than 70 members now contribute to the objectives of the Initiative. The partnership has already achieved one of its main goals four years ahead of schedule: the share of sustainably produced cocoa in confectionery sold in Germany has grown to more than half.

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