



Development of degree programs and course offerings in key sectors

Advisory service

The challenge

Many higher education institutions in developing and emerging countries lack the prerequisites to fulfil their educational and research task and to cope with the increasing demand for study places worldwide. They lack professional management, the necessary infrastructure and qualified teaching staff. The offered courses are often outdated and lack practical relevance. Under these circumstances, higher education institutions are unable to prepare future skilled workers and managers adequately for the requirements of today's labor market. Moreover, they can hardly contribute to solving regional and global problems.

Our approach

GIZ supports higher education institutions in many countries in improving teaching and research. We focus on the following points:

- » Better degree programs: Reformed course offerings and new degree programs, particularly on key topics and in key sectors such as energy, water, agriculture, health, climate and digitization, are key to upgrading higher education institutes. Together with our partners we support the development of up-to-date course offerings. For example, potential employers and, if deemed relevant, experts from German higher education institutions are involved.

We also provide support for the national or international accreditation of degree programs. We are guided by international and regional quality standards as well as by the needs of the learners and the requirements of the labor market. In essence the content of degree programs is geared towards international good practice and the local context. To implement practice-oriented study is particu-

larly important to us. This practical component can be achieved through internships, dual study courses as well as through teaching key competencies such as solution-oriented and entrepreneurial thinking.

- » Teacher training: We train lecturers on new content and teaching methods.
- » Better management, modern equipment: We support universities on efficient administrative management and support the modernizing of their equipment, for example in laboratories, IT and research literature.
- » Higher education cooperation: We promote cooperation between higher education institutions across borders. This includes joint degree programs, intercultural academic exchange and cross-border learning for students, teaching and administrative staff.
- » Policy advice: We advise ministries of higher education and science on university reform issues. Such reforms can help to support national development goals and improve the employability of students.
- » Alumni networks: We promote alumni networks because they serve to foster relations between the university and its graduates and to facilitate finding a job or pursuing a professional career.
- » Creating opportunities: We also focus on young refugees. We want to offer them new perspectives by giving them the opportunity to study at higher educational institutions.

Our services

We have long-standing experience as an intermediary between higher education institutions, relevant ministries, the public sector and business and use this expertise to support changes at higher education institutions. Cooperation with the German Academic Exchange Service



(DAAD) and selected higher education institutions in Germany as well as in partner countries provide impetus for new Bachelor's and Master's programs or for the reform of existing programs in key sectors. We also promote the expansion of doctoral programs in order to provide the best possible support for young researchers. More and more important are blended learning programs that combine traditional forms of teaching with e-learning and facilitate lifelong learning.

The benefits

By offering high-quality, attractive and labor market-oriented degree programs, high-performing higher education institutions give their graduates the chance to find qualified, adequately paid jobs or to successfully establish companies. Well-managed and administered higher education institutions ensure economic and social improvements because they provide the labor market with well-trained managers and skilled workers who make companies and administrations more productive and innovative. Moreover, high-quality teacher training pays off because students benefit from it for decades. Through high-quality higher education and research, universities can drive development at many levels and support the sustainable development goals.

An example from the field

The African Union founded the Pan-African University (PAU) in 2010 as a model university for quality, relevance and pan-African networking. Five PAU Institutes were established at renowned African university centers. They focus on development priorities on the African continent. Germany supports the PAUWES Institute at the University of Tlemcen in Algeria in the fields of energy, water and climate change. The PAU Rectorate in Yaoundé, Cameroon, is responsible for organization and networking. GIZ

advises the PAU Rectorate and PAUWES Institute. The focus lies on the quality of structures, strategies, processes and teaching as well as on African Union issues, the pan-African orientation, the goals of Agenda 2063 and of the African master plan for inclusive and sustainable development. Numerous approaches serve as models for the Rectorate and all PAU institutes. A PAU Master's program on climate change is to become a model for the entire African continent. A central goal is to create study programs that are geared to the requirements of the labor market and the development goals of the African Union. The degree programs at the Pan-African University focus on subjects that are particularly important for the continent, such as water, energy, technological innovations and good governance. Among students, PAU is a success. Between 2014 and the end of 2019, 26 Master-Programs have been developed, 12 PhD Programs, 2150 students are currently enrolled and already 1112 students graduated from the Pan-African University, 218 of them from the PAUWES Institute. Surveys among graduates of PAUWES Algeria show that three quarters of them found a job that matches their qualifications.

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