



Skills development for resource-efficient economies

Advisory Service

The challenge

Our economies need to become more economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable given the risks posed by climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. Transforming business requires investment – for example in renewable energy and energy-efficient infrastructure, in waste management and the circular economy, in water supply and sanitation, and in sustainable mobility. Environmental protection and climate change mitigation need to become an integral part of decision-making in business. However, a transformation of this kind requires know-how. Skilled workers and experts are needed in all areas to develop and implement sustainable approaches. Yet many partner countries lack the professionals required for these tasks. For many years now, the International Labour Organization has warned that a lack of skilled labour will jeopardise the transition to sustainable economies. This shortage means that innovative ideas are not being implemented and, as a result, green jobs that would improve the local employment situation are not being created. In addition to investment in green technologies and infrastructure, additional funding is therefore required to expand relevant vocational and higher education training offers.

Our approach

GIZ supports skills development for green jobs, as an effective instrument for transitioning to resource-efficient economies. The medium-term goal is to provide urgently needed skilled workers and experts. Obtaining a qualification also offers individuals attractive prospects for the future. We support our local and international partners in developing training opportunities in the vocational education and higher education sectors. Needs-oriented training courses in key sectors of the green economy provide graduates with the relevant expertise and skills. Building their skills

will help sustainable businesses to maximise their growth potential and capacity for innovation, strengthen their resilience to crisis and create new green jobs.

From a strategic perspective, we use skills development for resource-efficient economies...

- » to promote employability, not just within the framework of initial training, but also as part of lifelong learning.
- » to make efficient use of phases of unemployment, due to COVID-19, for example.
- » to promote entrepreneurial thinking and action in green sectors.
- » to support a transition to a sustainable economy.
- » to help create awareness to foster the responsible use of natural resources.
- » to contribute to the sustainable management of our planet's limited resources and to mitigate climate change.

Our services

Through skills development for resource-efficient economies, we provide an innovative impetus for change and sustainable development. We tailor our needs-driven and future-oriented services individually, in line with the different objectives, target groups and contexts involved. We offer the following services:

- » Support for establishing vocational and higher education programmes for resource-efficient economies. Our services include the development of modules or entire training programs, e.g. in specific subsectors such as renewable energies, as well as for “mainstreaming” environmental and sustainability topics into different qualifications.
- » Training of multipliers, such as schoolteachers and university lecturers. The aim here is to strengthen their educational, didactic, methodological and technical



skills in areas such as environmental protection, climate change and biodiversity.

- » Specialist advice and organisational development inputs for our national partners from education, science and private sector. This aims to improve the degree to which sustainability and the responsible use of resources are mainstreamed in strategies, concepts and action plans.
- » The development of sustainability and “greening” strategies at universities and vocational colleges. We also provide support for developing teaching and learning materials and the equipment of workshops and laboratories.
- » The creation of and support for networks and multi-stakeholder partnerships at the regional, national, and international level. Our partners come from the public and private sectors as well as from the vocational training sector and from science and academia.

The benefits

Partnering with GIZ will allow you to benefit from our networks in higher and vocational education and training systems as well as in green technologies, two areas in which Germany has an excellent international reputation. The German (vocational) education and training system is recognised globally for its highquality qualifications. German companies also have an outstanding market position as regards environmental technologies. GIZ has longstanding project experience in combining skills development and sustainable technologies. The benefits of our measures are twofold: not only do they enhance employability, but they also support the transition to a sustainable economy.

An example from the field

Côte d’Ivoire could leverage its potential for using renewable energies to a greater degree and become more energy-efficient if the local labour market had suitably qualified staff. A GIZ measure commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) aims to provide initial and further training for skilled workers and experts in the field of renewable energies and energy efficiency. GIZ works with the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training of Côte d’Ivoire in this context. Together, the partners prepared needs assessments and occupational profiles. Training modules were developed and have already been implemented. These modules are set to become part of the national initial training programmes. Higher education programmes have also been modernized and modules on renewable energy and energy efficiency have been integrated

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