

Pilot measure in The Gambia

Skills for Reintegration

Context

Skills for Reintegration supports migrants and forcibly displaced people with the decision to return voluntarily to their home countries and with their reintegration process. The main focus is on South-South migration since around 85 percent of forcibly displaced people worldwide are hosted by developing countries.

To prepare migrants and forcibly displaced people for their voluntary return, the project offers professional and personal advice as well as vocational training adapted to local needs. This increases employability and lowers the risk of poverty. Where forcibly displaced people are unable to return to their home countries, vocational qualifications can facilitate integration in the host countries. Professional and personal qualifications are available to migrants, forcibly displaced people and host communities.

Skills for Reintegration works with targeted pilot measures in The Gambia, Niger, Kyrgyzstan and Mexico that are designed and implemented by international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), bilateral GIZ projects or the project itself.

Supporting training and employment opportunities in The Gambia

For political and economic reasons, an increasing number of Gambian citizens have left their home country for Europe in recent years. As a result, The Gambia has one of the highest migration rates in the world. Of the around 15,000 Gambians living in Germany, less than five percent are likely to obtain permanent resident status.

The Gambian labour market is characterised by high unemployment, particularly among young people. At the same time, there is a high demand for technical expertise and a lack of quality and services offered by (state-run) vocational training institutions.

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Project region	The Gambia
Project management	Bettina Fellmer

Objectives

1. Improve the training opportunities and employability of people who decide to return voluntarily to The Gambia and of the local population.
2. Strengthen the technical and vocational training sector in The Gambia.

Approach

Skills for Reintegration implements activities in The Gambia using its own structures. The project works with the Gambia Technical Training Institute (GTTI) and the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP), an EU-funded measure.

As part of the German Government's coherent approach to support voluntary return and create services to support reintegration in home countries, the project aims to develop and test approaches that target the entire return chain. It thus aims to promote voluntary return as an alternative to deportation.

In cooperation with institutions in the German state of Baden-Württemberg, a one-year vocational training course is offered at GTTI that can be combined with a three-month module in Germany. A four-week preparatory course in The Gambia aims to create a level playing field at entry level and to aid the integration of all trainees.

Based on a needs assessment conducted in The Gambia,

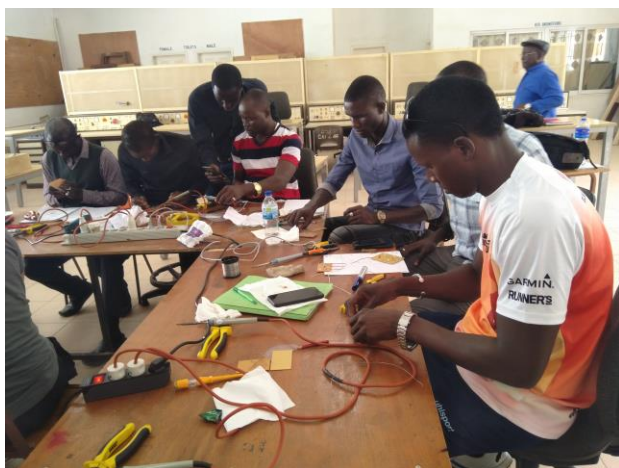
two training courses have been developed, each with a state-approved certificate of completion. Extensive practical training combined with internships enables participants to make contact with potential employers. In addition, seminars on starting your own business aim to facilitate self-employment.

In designing the training courses, emphasis was placed on ensuring that they can be used as the first module of the vocational training courses in the areas of electrical installation and metalwork.

To create the right conditions for running the courses, essential renovation measures have been carried out at GTTI's facilities in Mansa Konko and technical equipment has been provided for the workshops. With assistance from the Centre for School Quality and Teacher Training in Baden-Württemberg (ZLS), the project has also been supporting a teacher training course at GTTI.

Results

- 2 long-term training courses in the fields of small solar home systems and rural mechanics have been developed and were launched in September 2019.
- 37 people are participating in these state-certified training courses.
- 22 teachers have completed training in pedagogy and specialist didactics.
- The training facilities in Mansa Konko have been renovated and equipped.
- The administrative management of GTTI's facilities in Mansa Konko has been strengthened.



Course in solar technology at GTTI



Course in rural mechanics at GTTI

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