

The ExperTS Programme

Economy. Transfer. Sustainability.

Development and the private sector

The private sector plays an important part in a country's development because companies create jobs and drive innovation. That is why they have the potential to help solve global problems and achieve development policy goals – for example in areas such as climate change mitigation and social standards. However, the private sector will only be able to promote development if foreign trade promotion and development cooperation are linked to each other. To achieve this connection, the private sector needs contacts on the ground which advise them on the advantages of and opportunities for sustainable business practices and what development cooperation can offer them.

The aim of the ExperTS Programme is to establish such contacts. The programme is funded by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in cooperation with German Chambers of Commerce Abroad (AHKs) and Delegations of German Industry and Commerce. The objective of the ExperTS Programme is to promote sustainable business practices around the world and to create better conditions under which companies can become involved in development policy activities in partner countries.



Project Summary

Project title	ExperTS Programme
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Objective	The conditions for development policy involvement in project partner countries by German, European and local companies are improved.
Country	Worldwide in around 30 countries
Term	January 2011 to March 2022

What the ExperTS Programme does

An expert for development cooperation working at a German Chamber of Commerce Abroad? What at first sounds like an unlikely approach has proven to be very efficient. The ExperTS advise German, European and local companies in around 30 developing and emerging economies on development policy issues. They work at the intersection between development cooperation and foreign trade promotion. As local contacts, ExperTS support small and medium-sized companies in particular in tapping into new markets and setting up innovative cooperation arrangements, as well as ensuring that their involvement brings benefits for all sides. In this way, they create the basis for local sustainable economic development.

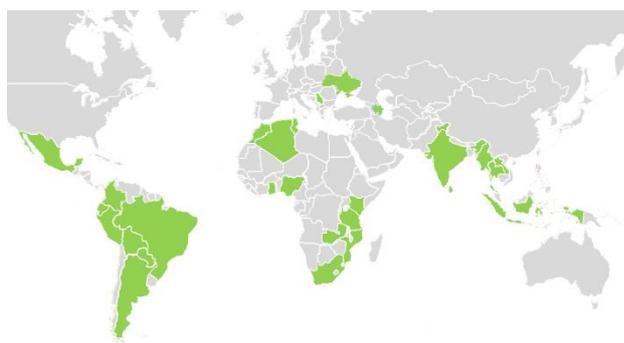
As 'Integrated Experts', the specialists of the ExperTS Programme are placed by the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM). They are employed by the local AHKs, and the ExperTS Programme tops up their local salary.

Published by

Depending on the circumstances and needs in specific countries, ExperTS operate in the following four priority areas:

➤ Sustainable economic development

The objective of this core area is to promote sustainable growth in the local economy by promoting exports and innovation. One example is Algeria, where the ExperTS Programme supported initiatives to place locally cultivated and processed dates into European supermarkets, thus strengthening the country's agricultural sector in the long term.



➤ Energy and the environment

ExperTS help to mitigate climate change by providing advice on renewable energy and energy efficiency. Knowledge and technology transfer between local and German companies is crucial here. One way of achieving this is by setting up competence centres in the areas of energy and environment, or by training energy managers. Such training also gives local employees the opportunity to devise specific energy saving measures for their company and to directly reduce their CO₂ emissions.

➤ Vocational training

Well-trained staff are fundamental to economic development, but not every country has an efficient training system. Vocational education and training is

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therefore a priority area for the ExperTS Programme. Germany's dual training system serves as a model and is adapted to regional needs. In Mexico, for example, young people have been benefiting from a dual course of training in 19 occupations since 2013.

➤ Digitalisation and start-ups

Economic success is fed by innovative ideas. That is why, from 2018 onwards, the ExperTS Programme is setting an additional priority area for its new project phase here. The first expert is already at work in this new area, setting up a Department for Digitalisation and Start-ups within the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Nigeria.

ExperTS works

Since 2011, ExperTS have been helping to achieve the following results:

- Around 31,500 individuals have benefited from technical, vocational and advanced training, giving them better access to the labour market.
- More than 15,000 individuals have found jobs.
- More than 9,300 individuals have improved their working conditions and more than 11,600 people have increased their income.
- Training energy managers has cut greenhouse gas emissions by over 2.5 million tonnes.
- 50 million people will have access to a better waste management.

Further information available at: www.bmz.de/experts

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GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

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