

Our Organisation

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the federally owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH supports the German Government in achieving its development-policy objectives. It provides viable, forwardlooking solutions for political, economic, ecological and social development in a globalised world. Working under difficult conditions, GTZ promotes complex reforms and change processes. Its corporate objective is to improve people's living conditions on a sustainable basis.

Our Clients

GTZ is a federal enterprise based in Eschborn near Frankfurt am Main. It was founded in 1975 as a company under private law. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is its major client. The company also operates on behalf of other German ministries, the governments of other countries and international clients, such as the European Commission, the United Nations and the World Bank, as well as on behalf of private enterprises. GTZ works on a public-benefit basis. All surpluses generated are channelled back into its own international cooperation projects for sustainable development.



For more information please contact:

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn/Germany
T +49 61 96 79-11 50
F +49 61 96 79-73 17
E info@gtz.de
I www.gtz.de

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Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
Corporate Communications
Postfach 5180
65726 Eschborn/Germany
T +49 61 96 79-0

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GTZ Profile

gtz Partner for the Future.
Worldwide.

GTZ – Worldwide Operations

GTZ employs some 10,000 staff in more than 120 countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Eastern European countries in transition and the New Independent States (NIS). Around 9,000 of these staff are national personnel. GTZ maintains its own offices in 67 countries. Some 970 people are employed at Head Office in Eschborn near Frankfurt am Main. In addition, 365 staff work for supra-regional projects based at various locations within Germany.

Experience and Competence

GTZ can draw on over 30 years of experience in international cooperation for sustainable development. It maintains a local presence of expert and managerial staff in the partner countries. GTZ operates nationally, adapting its approaches and solutions to the conditions in the individual country. Together with its partners, it develops and implements concepts and measures tailored to the prevailing situation. For this, it relies on a combination of sectoral, regional and managerial competence.

Open to Alliances

International cooperation for sustainable development needs alliances. GTZ has a worldwide network of partnerships in civil society and in the economic and cultural spheres. It has always cooperated closely with national and international development cooperation organisations. Wherever technically and financially expedient, GTZ avails itself of the knowledge of the private consulting sector, independent experts and specialist public institutions both in the Federal Republic of Germany and in other countries.

Our Concept

GTZ takes on tasks in the field of international cooperation and implements them in line with its concept of sustainable development. We help realise this concept with our holistic, value-based and process-oriented approach that secures the participation of all stakeholders. We take account of economic, social and environmental issues in our work and support our partners when it comes to negotiating solutions in the broader societal context. We act at local, regional, national and international level in order to achieve maximum impact.

With our wide spectrum of services, the most important of which is capacity development, we translate sustainable development into practice. We promote capacity development at individual, organisational and societal level so that our partners are able to articulate, negotiate and implement

their own concepts of sustainable development. In doing so, we often assume the role of facilitator between state and society and of mediator in societal conflicts of interest. Whenever possible and expedient we involve the private sector.

Our Activity Areas

GTZ's services span a wide range of activity areas, from economic development and employment promotion, through governance and democracy, health and basic education to environmental protection, resource conservation, agriculture, fishing and nutrition. In all our activity areas we help enhance the capabilities of individuals and organisations. Government advisory services are a high priority area of work, and in many partner countries we are assisting comprehensive reform processes and the necessary changes to the political, economic and social framework conditions. Where acute need is jeopardising human survival, GTZ also responds with emergency aid and refugee programmes. Here too, our concept is geared to strengthening people's capacity to help themselves and promoting development that is self-sustaining in the long term. In recent years, GTZ has further extended its services, for example in organising major events.