

Skills Development for Youth Employment - SKYE

Promoting need-based Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and youth employment in Nigeria.

The Challenge

As a consequence of the long-standing focus on the capital-intensive mineral sector which generates comparatively few job opportunities, Nigeria has neglected employment-intensive sectors such as construction and agriculture. The world factbook estimates over 133.4 million Nigerians are living below the absolute poverty line (US\$1.90) per day; 56% of these figures are youths who are unemployed or underemployed. One obstacle for the development of employment potential sectors such as agriculture and construction is the lack of adequate qualified manpower. A major reason for this lies in the poor quality of curricula, teacher training and equipment in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) educational system. In the Global Competitiveness Index (2017/2018), Nigeria belongs to the 25 countries with the lowest ratings for quality education. Potentially lucrative value chains are restrained by the lack of a well-trained labour force.

Our Approach

Given the limited labour-market relevance of the TVET system, graduates of vocational training courses have few employment and income prospects. To help remedy this, the project will aim at improving income-generating employment opportunities for Nigerian youth and young adults, whose shortage is a major cause of migration to European and other industrialised countries. Based on the integrated employment approach, it will improve the employability of Nigerian youth and young adults in the construction and agriculture sectors, and in the occupational field of industrial mechanics. It will also seek to increase the provision of information and advice on opportunities to enter the job market. The activities of the project are closely interlinked with those of the Sustainable Economic Development programmes within GIZ.



Project Name	Skills Development for Youth Employment - SKYE
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Implementing Organisation	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Project Area	Nigeria - Abuja, Adamawa, Edo, Enugu, Kano, Lagos, Ogun, and Plateau
Political Partner	Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning
Project Duration	July 2018 to April 2022
Financial Volume	27.2 Million Euro

With the objective to improve the prospects of income-generating employment for Nigerian youths by promoting TVET, addressing the supply and demand sides of the integrated employment approach, and supporting public private dialogue about TVET, the project will achieve its goal through 6 output levels:

Output 1: The quality of TVET in the construction sector is improved. This field of activity aims to raise the quality of government and non-governmental formal and non-formal TVET in the construction industry.

Output 2: Nigerian youth have improved skills for productive employment in the agricultural sector. This field of activity will work to improve the opportunities for Nigerian youth and adults to find productive employment in the agriculture sector and along the agricultural value chain.

Output 3: The pro-employment framework for companies in the



Photo left: Carpentry training for returnee migrants at Bosch training centre, Lagos State

Photo right: Plumbing training at Honeywell academy training centre, Lagos State



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Photo left: Beneficiary of electrical training working on a solar inverter during her internship in Lagos State.

Photo right: Beneficiary of electrical training working on an automatic switch over panel during his internship in Lagos State.

construction and agriculture sectors has improved. This field of activity will aim to improve the employment framework for businesses for MSMEs in the construction and agricultural sectors.

Output 4: The institutional capacities for job oriented TVET have improved. This field will be directed at improving the conditions for a TVET system that is relevant to the labour market, with a focus on advice and support for sector skills council.

Output 5: TVET in the occupational field of industrial mechanics is better aligned with labour-market needs. This component is to align TVET more closely with labour market needs in the field of industrial mechanics.

Output 6: The range of active labour market measures offered by job placement, vocational training and counseling institutions for integration or reintegration into the labour market has been improved. This output looks at both the up-skilling of young Nigerians with up-to-date techniques as well as the advice and counsel on employment opportunities.

Impact in figures ...

To date, over 3,380 beneficiaries have been trained in short-term training in construction, agriculture and other professions. Women make up 32 per cent of this number. 557 of the total number of beneficiaries trained have gained employment as a result of our work. And over 193,367 persons have been informed about TVET and employment opportunities in Nigeria via ICT-assisted information channels.

... and in stories

Issah Musa has done different odd jobs including driving a tricycle just to make ends meet. He constantly faced with the hazards that come with such jobs in Nigeria. Issah holds an accounting certificate in education but has always had an interest in electrical fittings and installations. In 2019, he enrolled in the 13 weeks hands-on technical training course funded by SKYE and organised by Foundation for Skills Development (FSD). After his training, he took part in the course's mandatory three months internship programme. After his internship, Issah found employment in the same company he did his internship. Today, Issah is in a more stable job, earning more money.



Electrician Issah Musa in front of his work place in Lagos State.

Sharing his experience, Issah said:

"Just a year ago, I was always brutalised and robbed by street miscreants because of the odd jobs I did. Skills is important [so] the GIZ-SKYE three months training gave me the skills I needed. I make money much easier now. The training and internship has given me a bright future".

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