VET Partnership (BBP) Programme

The Vocational Education and Training (VET) Partnership Programme (BBP Programme) was launched in 2010 to improve vocational training systems in the partner countries and thus contribute to sustainable economic development and poverty alleviation. The programme aims at mobilizing the competences and know-how of the German private sector – of their chambers and associations as well as affiliated institutions – for the development of the cooperation countries and ensuring a stronger involvement of local companies in vocational training. Adapting the key elements of dual vocational training to the specific conditions in the partner countries by catering to the requirements of the local labour market is of special importance here.

What are BBP projects?
The BBP Programme is based on the transfer of know-how from Germany to developing countries and emerging economies. Its role model and sister programme is the BMO Partnership Programme (KVP Programme) launched in 1991. The more intensive involvement of business membership organisations (BMOs) in the vocational education and training process in the cooperating country aims at enhancing the employability of the local workforce. In addition, vocational institutions in the partner countries are enabled to offer qualified and practice-oriented education and training.

Process sequence of a BBP project

1. Initiative on the part of the German and/or foreign partners, or BMZ (as the case may be)
2. Fact-finding mission in the field as well as definition of targets and indicators of success
3. Application via sequa
4. Funding decision through BMZ
5. Implementation through partner(s)
6. Accounting, monitoring and reporting through sequa
7. Project progress control through external experts

Focus of BBP projects
- Organisational development
- Improved training curricula and methods geared to the companies’ needs
- Set-up of practice-oriented model training courses in new occupational sectors
- Consulting for partner institutions in respect to the development of qualification and examination standards

As a general rule, BBP projects comprise two funding phases of 3 years each.

sequa’s role
sequa is a non-profit company whose shareholders are the German apex bodies BDA, BDI, DIHK and ZDH as well as GIZ. It promotes the development activities of the German private sector worldwide. Since 1991 sequa has acted as the central implementing agency for all projects conducted within the KVP/BBP Programmes.

sequa’s tasks are:
- Consulting for the German partner(s) during the application phase
- Development of project proposals
- Project assessments and planning in the field
- Consulting for project implementation
- Programme management
- Project monitoring and evaluation
- Accounting and reporting vis-à-vis the BMZ

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BBP in practice: three project examples

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>More practice-oriented vocational training</td>
<td>In December 2013 the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK) launched a partnership with the Ecuadorian National Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (SENE SCYT), two chambers as well as four sectoral associations from the country’s private sector. As part of the BBP project, dual training courses are developed in various sectors: metal, textile/fashion, woodworking, software development as well as plastic and rubber technology. Created in a dialogue process between SENESCYT and the various chambers and associations, the courses are piloted at state-run vocational schools at different locations throughout the country. A holistic approach on policy levels This BBP project is special because of its holistic approach which applies on various policy levels: in addition to improving the political framework conditions for the country’s vocational education and training system, the project also contributes to the practical implementation of selected training courses in cooperation with vocational training schools, chambers, associations and companies and raises awareness among the Ecuadorian public.</td>
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<td>Palestine</td>
<td>Supporting vocational training centres to become more demand-oriented</td>
<td>Conducted by the Chamber of Skilled Crafts (HWK) of Cologne in collaboration with the chambers of industry and commerce in Palestine, this BBP project aims at making the local vocational training system more demand-oriented. The project focusses on support for Palestinian chambers of industry and commerce in the establishment of vocational training departments, modernising the region’s vocational schools and adding further training courses to their syllabuses. The foundation for an effective collaboration has been laid By hiring an employee responsible for setting up the new vocational training department at each of the 10 Palestinian chambers of industry and commerce as well as implementing a first set of vocational training courses, the foundations for a promising cooperation have been laid. In addition, the vocational schools run by the Palestinian Labour Ministry which are participating in the project are enabled to offer demand-oriented further education courses: through more advanced equipment, better practical and didactic skills on the part of the trainers employed and new or revised curricula. Training courses that are geared to the demands of the private sector can thus be rolled out even more extensively, the employment prospects for graduates improve and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) profit in regard to competitiveness and growth.</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Employment opportunities for young people</td>
<td>In November 2015 this VET partnership was launched between the Local Council of Skilled Crafts (Kreis handwerkere- rschaft – KH) in Steinfurt-Warendorf and the uMfolozi College in Richards Bay. The project aims at increasing the employment prospects of vocational training school graduates and show them ways into self-employment through better practice-orientation of the curricula, i.e. training units that are geared to the actual demands of the private sector. Close involvement of the private sector and establishment of a business incubator A prerequisite for the success of a project is the trust-based cooperation between the college and the institutionalised private sector. The vocational school involved in this BBP project has therefore started a for mal dialogue with two chambers of industry and commerce in the KwaZulu-Natal region. In addition, its training capacity is being increased through investments in infrastructure and quality. Dual vocational training courses will be piloted for masons, carpenters, as well as HVAC and sanitary systems mechanics. At the same time, a business incubator will be established at the college which will provide start-up support.</td>
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Source: Hanspeter Monsch, Expert Ecuador

Source: HWK Köln

Source: uMfolozi College

For further information on the programme: www.sequa.de