The importance of digital connectivity for training and job creation – insights from German Development Cooperation

Thematic session 3: “Digital connectivity for development”
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BMZ-Agenda for digitalisation

- Work
  - Local innovation
  - Equal opportunities
  - Good governance & human rights
  - Data for development
How can digital connectivity lead to job creation?

→ Digitalisation and new technologies are accompanied by **job losses and job gains**, depending on the type of activity and sector.

→ Digital connectivity is opening opportunities for **new business and work models**, and is changing **job profiles** and **requirements** for professional qualification.

**Four dominating trends:**

- Automation
- Digital platforms
- Digital offshoring
- Digital entrepreneurship
Opportunities for youth, women and marginalised groups

- The digital economy bears a huge job creation potential for marginalised groups.

- Digital connectivity is essential to improve participation, create educational opportunities and contribute to skills development, especially for young people.

- Bridging the gender digital divide is a necessity to combat existing inequalities.
Promoting inclusive and decent work through digitalisation with the integrated approach to employment promotion

Framework conditions of economic and employment policy

Expand the ICT infrastructure and regulate the digital economy

Supply of labour

Improve professional qualifications through the promotion of digital learning content and methods and through strengthening digital competencies

Matching in the labour market

Offer digital matching and job placement through virtual career fairs, digital career guidance and online job portals

Demand for labour

Create new jobs in digital services, through the promotion of Industry 4.0, by supporting digital start-ups and their business environment

Promote decent working conditions, especially in the gig economy
Spotlight: Atingi, Fairwork & DSAA

- Automation
- Digital platforms
- Digital offshoring
- Digital entrepreneurship

Atingi
Fairwork
Digital Skills Accelerator Africa
Atingi: *skills for the future*

→ A **free-of-charge, open-source digital learning platform** based on the *Digital Principles for Development* (commissioned by BMZ and developed by GIZ with Smart Africa Alliance)

→ **Target group**: current students, un(der)employed, employees, freelancers / gig economy workers

→ **Goals**: employability, career advancement, personal development and entrepreneurship (micro and SME)

→ 100+ GIZ projects and 100+ organisations from private, public and third sector.

→ **Current focus on Africa but with intention to extend to other continents.**
Digital Skills Accelerator Africa: inclusive jobs in the digital economy

→ A **business consortium** (part of Invest for Jobs) that offers people in Africa **job-relevant IT training programs** according to international standards.

→ **Goals:**
  - Qualify trainees to work in the IT services sector and in the business process outsourcing (BPO) industry for international clients.
  - Create inclusive jobs.

→ **One approach:** *Impact Sourcing*
  - Identify marginalised groups as talents for the BPO industry (e.g. people in refugee camps and in rural areas, single mothers, prisoners etc.).
  - Win-win situation for companies and individuals.

→ The approach might be interesting for and applicable to the Asian context.
Fairwork: promotion and regulation of the gig-economy

Launched by the Oxford Internet Institute and funded by BMZ.

**Approach:** Evaluation of the working conditions of platform workers & offering capacity building measures to platform companies.

**Goal:** Promote higher labour standards in the gig economy through platform ratings and consultations with digital labour platforms on improving working conditions.

Operates globally.
Meaningful digital connectivity is a prerequisite to leverage the potential of digitalisation for job creation.

Connectivity is more than just infrastructure: Education and vocational training are an integral element of a modern concept of connectivity.

Digital skills and an affordable access are essential to prepare people for the jobs of the future, create jobs and reduce poverty.

Without the commitment of the private and public sector, a large part of the population will not be able to benefit from the digital transformation and the opportunities in the digital world of work.
Kontakt

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