

Donor Committee for dual Vocational Education and Training (DC dVET) Information Letter, February 2017

The Donor Committee

Vocational Education and Training (VET) is an important pillar of the development policies of Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein and Switzerland. For several years, VET and dual VET in particular has attracted increasing international interest. The four countries want to make the most of this interest and further emphasise the advantages of dual VET for development cooperation together. This is why – as you perhaps already know – they initiated the Donor Committee for dual Vocational Education and Training (DC dVET).

The Donor Committee consists of four members:

- the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the operational unit of Austrian Development Cooperation,
- the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ),
The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports BMZ in the role of their operative implementing partner.
- the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED) and
- the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

To coordinate and support the activities, the members have appointed a secretariat. Do not hesitate to contact this: coordination@dcdualvet.org.

The objective of the Donor Committee is to contribute to even more effective VET interventions in the partner countries by increasing the coordination and cooperation between the members and providing content assistance to their projects and programmes. The mutual thematic understanding is also applied for targeted lobbying and public relations work on dual VET in development cooperation – without wanting to transfer the dual system one to one.

Website and Key Documents

The Donor Committee has compiled a series of publications and commissioned two major studies. These and further information on the Donor Committee and on dual VET in general and in development cooperation can be found on our website www.dcdualvet.org/en/:

- Portrait: Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles of the Donor Committee ([brochure](#) and [video](#)),
- Dual Vocational Education and Training in Development Cooperation: Mutual Understanding and Principles of the Donor Committee for dual Vocational Education and Training ([publication](#) and [video](#)),
- Founding event and specialist conference, 14 April 2016 in Lucerne: [documentation](#),

- Dual VET as an Option in Development Cooperation: Survey of Experts on behalf of the Donor Committee for dual Vocational Education and Training ([study](#) and [presentation](#), main author: M. Jäger),
- Dual VET in Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein and Switzerland: Comparative Expert Study (ibw Austria – Research & Development in VET). Die content of the study is illustrated on the DC dVET sub-site [Dual VET](#) and is also available as [PDF](#).

Areas of Focus in 2017

- **General offers:** The Donor Committee would like to support its members and their projects and programmes to make even better use of the advantages of dual VET for their work in the partner countries. For this, the members and their implementing partners have various offers available. These shall be introduced starting in 2017 based on your needs. Further information on this can be found below under [Offers for Members and their Projects and Programmes](#).
- **Pilot activities in Eastern Europe and South Caucasus as well as West Africa:** In 2017 the Donor Committee wants to proactively promote thematic exchange in two regions in which all four members have many years of experience and are also currently present. These include (i) countries of Eastern Europe (Western Balkans and Republic of Moldova) and South Caucasus as well as (ii) francophone countries of West Africa. The thematic focus is on the two themes *“Joint Responsibility of the State and Private Sector”* and *“Experiences and Challenges with dual System Reforms (including Enshrinement in Law and Integration in Society)”*. The exchange shall be initiated by a workshop in each of the two regions. The specific thematic priorities and implementation modalities of the exchange will be defined together with the local representations.
- **Positioning and public relations:** An important objective of the Donor Committee is to show the strengths of dual VET and the possibilities for development cooperation to other stakeholders. In this respect the Donor Committee will also in 2017 be taking part in national and international events and will be looking for exchanges with other donors and international stakeholders and, where meaningful, also cooperate with them.
- **Study on the role of the private sector and its organisations in VET:** The private sector plays a key role in dual VET. For 2017 the Donor Committee is planning a study that reveals the roles and responsibilities of the private sector stakeholders in dual VET and illustrates concrete experiences of its members in development cooperation.

Our offer to the members and their projects and programmes

The objective of the Donor Committee is to support its members and their projects and programmes in their continued thematic development and to promote exchange and coordination among each other. The focus is on the question of how the strengths of dual VET can be better used in development cooperation. The dual VET systems of the member countries are used as a reference and inspiration and not as a blueprint. In this regard the Donor Committee offers its members and projects a series of services. For larger enquiries, the precise implementation modalities including funding are discussed and agreed on selectively. If larger enquiries are made by project partners, these should be communicated beforehand with the responsible member (donor of the project). The offers comprise the following services:

- **Information:** *Do you need additional information on a theme?*
We will help you find this. Use our website or contact us directly (coordination@dcdualvet.org).
- **Networking:** *Do you want to know who can support you in a specific question and do you want corresponding contacts?*
We will support you find the person(s) / institution(s) with corresponding experience.

- **Coordination:** *Together with other members you want to improve mutual exchange/coordination. Do you want to have this process accompanied or moderated selectively and benefit from experiences in other countries?*
We will support you to mutually define and introduce coordination formats and mechanisms.
- **Positioning:** *Are you planning to improve the positioning of your activities in the area of (dual) VET and do you want selective support, e.g. as part of a public event?*
We will support you to improve your communication and positioning in the area of dual VET, e.g. with a joint appearance at an event.
- **Thematic work and documentation:** *For your work in the area of (dual) VET you need more detailed information or tools on a specific theme / question?*
We can support you to prepare a theme and document it in the form of a study, tool, etc.
- **Working groups:** *Do you want exchanges with other members, projects and programmes on a specific theme/question?*
We will support you, for example, to set up a (temporary) working group, provide you with a corresponding online platform and moderate the working group if necessary.
- **Thematic support:** *You need selective support with regard to the integration of elements of dual VET in policy dialogue, in your country programme and/or at the level of your projects and programmes?*
We can provide you with thematic support at specific times, e.g. as part of planning and evaluation processes and contribute the perspective of dual VET.

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