

Basic and Advanced Training in the Agricultural Sector

A demand-oriented, modern basic and advanced training system in step with actual practice in the agricultural sector is one of the key prerequisites on the way to a resource-efficient, locally adapted agricultural production that meets people's nutritional needs.

Introduction

In many developing countries the agricultural sector is of paramount importance. It generates up to 50 % of the Gross Domestic Product and provides jobs for up to 80 % of the working population. However, the agricultural production does not satisfy the demand for foodstuffs in many parts of the world. An appropriate tool to meet this challenge is the provision of basic and advanced training.



Presentation of the works done by course participants. Source: PROAGRO

Agricultural demand-oriented, modern basic and advanced training with actual hands-on practical elements can boost the development in rural areas. Furthermore it helps to

Our services in international cooperation and commercial consulting

Since 2018 IAK is approved as training provider and consultant on iMOVE, the export initiative Basic and Advanced Training of the German Ministry of Education and Research.

Whether in Germany or elsewhere, for public or private clients: IAK provides its expertise in the following areas:

- Introduction of elements of the German dual training system
- Concept development, establishment and operation of pilot farms and practice-oriented educational facilities
- Needs-based structuring of new or modernisation of existing occupational standards, curricula, and qualification frameworks
- Knowledge transfer in i.e. production technology, business management, farm planning and management, and marketing, combined with practical application



Demonstration plot in Zambia. Source: AKTC

IAK Agrar Consulting GmbH is an independent agricultural consulting company working both for public clients (Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture/BMEL, GIZ, World Bank, EU and many others) and private enterprises in Germany and abroad since 1981.

guarantee food security, reduce the rate of unemployment especially among young people, strengthen the competitiveness of agricultural production and counteract the impacts of climate change.

Dual training. The uniquely German dual training combining theoretical knowledge taught at vocational schools and its application in practice is recognised worldwide. This educational system is particularly highly valued for what is known as green occupations (e. g. farmers, foresters, animal farmers, fish farmers, gardeners).

Advanced training. Agricultural specialists and managerial staff of agricultural enterprises are enabled to deepen their basic knowledge and familiarize themselves with the latest production and cultivation techniques (machinery, seeds or cultivation methods) and the statutory provisions.

- Development of didactic and educational teaching aids and learning material
- Training courses for technical and managerial staff of agricultural enterprises as well as teachers and administrative staff, examiners and certifiers of educational institutions
- Demonstration and field days to present advanced production equipment, seeds and cultivation methods
- Study tours, delegation trips and internships at German agricultural enterprises (notably in the frame of the DLG trainee program to which IAK have been actively participating since more than 20 years)
- International networking with German educational institutions



Combine harvester harvesting AKTC wheat. Source: AKTC

Selected projects of IAK

Improvement of the vocational education and integration into the labour market in the agricultural and mining sectors, Guinea, AFD, 2018-20, € 1 mill.

Partner: SOFRECO (leader)

Reinforcement and improvement of the offer of technical and vocational education for 18 selected training paths

- Elaboration of new or adaptation of existing curricula according to the skills-based approach
- Trainings for staff from public institutions and training centres (incl. ToT)
- Purchase of equipment for training centres

German-Zambian Agricultural Knowledge and Training Centre (AKTC), Zambia, BMEL, 2014-20, € 3.5 mill. Partners: AFC Agriculture & Finance Consultants GmbH (leader), DLG International GmbH and DEULA-Nienburg GmbH

Setup and operation of a training and knowledge centre for farmers and technicians

- Analysing the training needs and developing suitable training plans and curricula
- Practice-oriented trainings in operational planning and management, advanced agricultural equipment and sustainable cultivation methods in crop farming appropriate for the location (soya, grain and potatoes)
- Demonstration and test fields as well as field days

Setting up of a German-Ukrainian Agricultural Demonstration and Training Centre, Ukraine, BMEL, 2016-18, € 1.6 mill. Partners: AFC and DEULA-Nienburg

Setting up of a training centre for vocational school teachers, instructors and trainers as well as machine technicians, technical and managerial staff of the agricultural sector

- Development of needs-based training plans & curricula
- Practice-oriented training courses, i.e. in soil cultivation, fertilization and crop storage
- Test series on the 46 hectare demo plot and field days

Cooperation partners



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Training on dairy farming and good farming practices for German dairy enterprises, Germany, private agricultural enterprises, since 2001, approx. € 100,000 per year

- Target group: managers and milking operators of German dairy enterprises
- Topics: improved milk quality, higher efficiency of milk production and greater expertise and organizational and management skills

Programme of Sustainable Land Management/ Support to ATVET in Natural Resource Management and related Livelihoods, Ethiopia, GIZ, 2015-17, € 1,4 mill. Partners: Ambero Consulting GmbH and Planco Consulting GmbH

Offering a high-quality, practice-related and needs-based vocational training by 5 selected agricultural training centres

- Needs analysis for the purpose of adapting or creating new occupational standards
- Developing didactic and educational teaching aids and learning material, examination and quality assurance tools
- Training courses for managerial staff and teachers
- Promoting the cooperation between vocational schools, enterprises and the rural population

Sustainable Agricultural Development (PROAGRO), Bolivia, GIZ, 2014-17, € 2 mill. Partner: GITEC Consult GmbH (leader)

Development of an advanced training system in the fields of water, environment and agriculture to boost smallholder farmers' resilience to climate change

- Defining the guidelines for the content of needs-based modular training courses
- Organizing the institutional cooperation
- Establishing and consolidating national and international alliances