

Service für Entwicklungsinitiativen



MATERIAL FOURTH CONFERENCE OF 'MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH AFRICA' 9 to 11 September 2019 in Hanover | No. 107

Service Agency Communities in One World

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1. INTRODUCTION

From 9 to 11 September 2019 the Fourth Conference of Municipal Partnerships with Africa brought together 150 delegates. These included administrators, councillors and civil society stakeholders from 22 African municipalities in 11 countries, as well as some 30 German municipalities. One thing they all have in common is that their municipalities are linked through partnerships. They came to Hanover, the capital city of Lower Saxony, by invitation of Engagement Global's Service Agency Communities in One World, in order to share their experiences and project ideas and to discuss current issues concerning municipal relationships



A plenary session

The conference opened with an overview of how the activities of municipality partnerships fit into the major development agendas: the 2030 Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the United Nations in 2015, and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, adopted by the African Union (AU).

Some parts of the conference agenda were designed on an interactive basis. At a barcamp session, for instance, participants were able to introduce into the debate questions that were important to them, thus helping to define the agenda themselves. This prompted dialogue not only between the German and African municipalities, but also within the African partner municipalities.



The moderators Monika Hoegen (left) and Ute Lange (right)

To ensure that the participants were able to actually implement the ideas generated at the conference, the Service Agency staged a 'Market of opportunities' to display its numerous instruments for supporting the work of municipal partnerships. Interested delegates were then able to find out face-toface what financial, human and technical resources were available that would be best suited to taking their particular partnership forward.



Regional Conferences are held for Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America/the Caribbean on a rotating basis. Each region is covered once every three years. The next conference on Africa is planned for 2022

ightarrow Round Tables and Regional Conferences

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2. OPENING THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH AFRICA

Xenia Behnke, Officer for International Cooperation and Development Policy at the Lower Saxony State Chancellery, Thomas Hermann, Mayor of Hanover (capital city of Lower Saxony) and Dr Stefan Wilhelmy, Division Manager, Service Agency/Engagement Global, welcomed the delegates and provided an introduction to the conference.

Responding to global challenges together



Xenia Behnke

'The success of cooperation arrangements depends on how closely the partners dialogue with each other', was how Xenia Behnke from the Lower Saxony State Chancellery put it. As good practice examples she mentioned two cooperation arrangements of the German federal state of Lower Saxony - one with the South African province of Eastern Cape, and one with Tanzania. The partnership with Eastern Cape has already existed for 20 years, and its distinctive features include its wide range of projects and its active culture of visits. In Tanzania, on the other hand, the government of Lower Saxony is supporting specific projects by providing human and logistical expertise. Both arrangements are based on the fundamental belief that today's global

challenges concern everyone, and can only be solved jointly. This is also the reason why Lower Saxony attaches high priority to partnerships and international cooperation.

Extending expert dialogue and networks



Thomas Herrmann

'Maintaining international partnerships is part of the daily routine of German municipalities', said Thomas Hermann, Mayor of Hanover. In this connection, he sees the various kinds of support provided by institutions like the Service Agency as a great help. He also said that as he saw it, the Africa Conference too provided a good opportunity to get to know the partners involved, and pursue dialogue in order to move existing projects forward and find new partners for networking. In this connection he drew attention to the existing partnership between Hanover and Blantyre, the capital city of Malawi, which has existed for 51 years. He saw this as a good example of highly effective cooperation involving the municipality, the cultural sphere, the education sector and civil society.

Continuous increase in support for municipal development cooperation

'The support for the Service Agency Communities in One World and for the development engagement of municipalities is becoming increasingly diverse', as Dr Stefan Wilhelmy of the Service Agency/Engagement Global was able to report. He pointed out that while just three teams of experts attended the First Africa Conference in 2010 to advise the municipalities, there were now twelve teams from the Service Agency/Engagement Global at the conference in Hanover to facilitate the work of the partnerships. This engagement was made possible thanks to the increase in funding from Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the political backing of the German Bundestag.



Dr Stefan Wilhelmy

In early 2018 Dr Wilhelmy travelled with Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann, BMZ, to Tanzania, to see how the municipal partnership projects that were part of the municipal climate partnerships launched in 2011 were being implemented, and what effect the instruments provided by the Service Agency were having. He was particularly impressed by the participatory approach to cooperation in the municipalities he visited, and the sustainability of many activities, which were also continued after the Service Agency's support came to an end.



Dr Shazia Wülbers and moderator Monika Hoegen

'At this conference we'll be able to compare notes on the work of our partnership with many people, and collect fresh ideas for it.'

Dr Shazia Wülbers, Bremen

'The conference offers plenty of opportunity for everyone to expand their horizons. Lots of participants from different countries possess a great deal of experience and are sharing their solutions.'

> Einhard Chidaga, Dar es Salaam



Einhard Chidaga

3. DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH AFRICA – STRATEGIES, PRIORITIES AND THE ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES

Abridged version of the speech by Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann, Head of Division for Federal States and Local Authorities, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The topic was cooperation with Africa from the German perspective.



Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann

'Africa, Europe's neighbouring continent, is above all a continent of opportunity! The BMZ never tires of passing on this message. Where are Africa's challenges, what concrete opportunities can we make use of? Here are two examples.

First of all, by 2050 Africa's population will double to 20 per cent of the global population. Half of its total population of 1.2 billion are currently younger than 25. This means that 20 million new jobs are required every year. Supporting our African partners in this regard is an important matter for the BMZ, because Africa's young population holds major potential for development and for realising African solutions to sustainable development. Secondly, climate change is a major challenge for Africa. Low-carbon development at the same time holds much potential, such as the expansion of solar power – a topic that is also being addressed by many German-African municipal partnerships.

'Europe and Africa can only master today's challenges together, and must use the existing opportunities jointly – for the benefit of both continents in a way that adds a new dimension to cooperation.'

Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann

Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda as the foundation for cooperation

With Agenda 2063 the Member States of the African Union in 2013 adopted a joint vision for the continent's development over the next 50 years, in which they committed to good governance, democracy, the rule of law and economic reforms. In Agenda 2063 we see a clear strategy of the African states for a sustainable development of their continent.

The 2030 Agenda with its 17 SDGs adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015 provides a framework for the development of all the world's countries. Its vision is nothing less than a transformation to more sustainable development worldwide within the boundaries of our planet. Many African countries have recognised the outstanding importance of the 2030 Agenda and have already made great progress in implementing it through their national strategies. Here we in Germany can learn a lot from our African partners. Both agendas form the basis for our cooperation with Africa.

Pact on the Future, with Africa

To support the goal of a prosperous Africa, in 2017 German Development Minister Dr Gerd Müller presented the 'Marshall plan with Africa', which placed cooperation with Africa on a new strategic footing. The plan indicates the cornerstones of the BMZ's Africa policy, and is aligned with the 2030 Agenda. Economic activity and trade, peace and security, and democracy and the rule of law form the three pillars of this Marshall Plan. At the same time it heralded a paradigm shift. It is characterised by mutual obligations between the partners and is based on more ownership by our African partners.

The role of municipal development cooperation

Municipal cooperation can contribute to all these aspirations. One example is democracy and good governance. Municipalities are centres of political participation because they are closest to citizens. Municipalities are responsible for ensuring that everyday life works, for instance in the sectors of urban planning, education, transport, water supply, energy supply and waste management. A municipality that runs smoothly is therefore a key prerequisite for the quality of life of citizens and for the economic activity of enterprises.

All the changes aspired to through the aforementioned strategies must take effect at the local level. "All life is local", as Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Dr Gerd Müller, often says. Every one of us lives in a municipality; that's where the future is designed.

This is why since 2013 the BMZ has quintupled its funding for municipal development cooperation to 25 million euros – a steep rate of growth. Over the last four years the number of German municipalities engaged in development work has more than tripled: from 257 to 816 in September 2019.' 'In the 2030 Agenda municipal engagement takes on considerably more importance. In fact, with SDG 11 ("Sustainable Cities and Communities") municipalities are assigned an SDG of their own. Municipal partnerships are a perfect example of the implementation of SDG 17 ("Partnerships for the Goals"), though of course they can also contribute to all the other SDGs. All municipalities in the Global North and the Global South alike are called upon to become partners on the path to sustainable development. Be aware of your role in the context of international cooperation!'

Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann



- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- → BMZ: Marshall Plan with Africa

4. THE AFRICA WE WANT – DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FROM AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

Abridged version of the speech by Erastus J. O. Mwencha, former Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission.



Erastus J. O. Mwencha

'The Agenda 2063 approved by the Member States of the African Union in 2013 is the strategic framework for the African continent's socio-economic development for the next 50 years. As Agenda 2063 was being developed, the members reflected on the history of the continent over the past 50 years since the foundation of the Organisation for African Unity, the predecessor organisation of the AU, in 1963. They thought about how they could build on previous and current initiatives for growth and sustainable development and how they could learn from the mistakes of the past.

Agenda 2063 is thus based among other things on regional and continental declarations, the national development plans of the AU Member States and the vision of the AU. Furthermore, in all member countries the relevant stakeholders from fields such as politics, administration, civil society and the private sector, as well as citizens, were consulted on the vision for Agenda 2063. What should Africa look like in 2063? Based on this the AU identified the following aspirations for the continent ('The Africa We Want'):

- 1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
- 2. An integrated continent, politically united based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance
- 3. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
- 4. A peaceful and secure Africa
- 5. An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics
- An Africa, whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children
- 7. Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner

These aspirations reflect the fact that Africa intends to assume full responsibility for its development and drive this process selfreliantly.

The interplay between Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda

Africa's position as laid out in Agenda 2063 was also directly incorporated into the 2030 Agenda. The latter's 17 SDGs are reflected in the 20 Goals of Agenda 2063. In other words, when the municipal partnerships with Africa implement the 17 SDGs, they are also implementing Agenda 2063 at the same time. Having said that, Agenda 2063 includes only goals for the population of Africa. It is also more comprehensive than the 2030 Agenda, for instance in that it is also devoted to continental financial institutions and an African cultural renaissance. For implementing the global 2030 Agenda the United Nations has a strong interest in regional instruments. With its Agenda 2063 Africa is already leading the

way here – by setting an example for other continents.

Megatrends in Africa

Africa's development is affected by the following megatrends:

- 1. Demographic change
- 2. Technological development
- 3. Climate change
- 4. Migration
- 5. Global geopolitics
- 6. Raw material prices
- 7. Governance

One of the key trends is population growth in Africa. By 2050 the population is expected to double, and some 2.5 billion people will live in Africa, 70 per cent of them in cities. This will create extreme challenges for municipalities, for instance with regard to job creation, housing, water supply and transport. Climate change will exacerbate the situation even more.

Implementing Agenda 2063

To achieve rapid results in implementing Agenda 2063 the African Union has already approved twelve emergency programmes and initiatives. These include a high-speed rail network, an African passport and freedom of movement, a Pan-African virtual University and an African financial institution.'



Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want

'Africa has recognised how important partnerships are in order to achieve its objectives, particularly with regard to technology transfer, global and multilateral cooperation, finance, development cooperation and cooperation between municipalities.'

Erastus J. O. Mwencha

'With Agenda 2063 the countries of Africa have made clear that they intend to solve their problems through dialogue rather than through armed force.'

Erastus J. O. Mwencha

'I think the mutual visits are important. Our tree-planting action last year was something quite special. Our partners in Hanover supported us in getting children to plan more than 1,100 seedlings. The treeplanting action was backed up by workshops on topics such as climate change, adapting to its impacts, protecting natural resources and managing solid waste.'

Foster Alubano, Blantyre



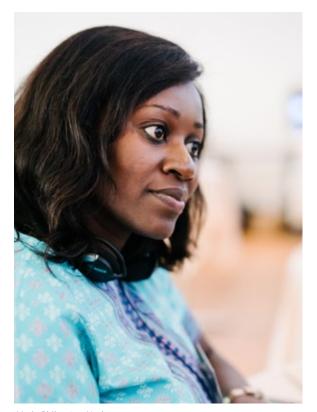
Foster Alubano und Marion Köther

'In 2018 I was able to gain a clear picture of the situation in our partner city of Blantyre and I now have a much better understanding of the conditions under which people there live. As a municipality we can set an example by making the world a little smaller through dialogue and mutual learning.'

Marion Köther, Hanover

'At this conference we're hearing a lot about how the world and our continent are changing, and what goals the international community and Africa have set themselves for the next few years. We all need to help make the transition to a more sustainable world a reality.'

Marie Philomène Ntab, Thiès



Marie Philomène Ntab

5. PANEL DISCUSSION: PROSPECTS FOR GERMAN-AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



The invited speakers sharing their visions for German-African development cooperation

Abridged version of the panel discussion with:

- → Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann, Head of Division for Federal States and Local Authorities, BMZ
- → Erastus J. O. Mwencha, former Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission
- → Alfred Mahirwe, Ministry of Local Government, Rwanda
- → Neermala Gounden, Manager for Development Cooperation and International Relations, Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa
- → Wolfgang Grätz, Head of Division for Development Cooperation, Hamburg Senate Chancellery

'More and more often we hear that the continent of Africa should be doing more to take its fate into its own hands. Would you agree with this narrative?'

Neermala Gounden: 'Africa needs to solve its problems itself as a community, and take responsibility for achieving this task. But to do so it also needs external support, not just from Europe, but also from other countries in the Global South. We must get together and dialogue more with other actors, because for many problems there are already solutions elsewhere.

In a joint project implemented by the Oldenburg – Buffalo City partnership, we are identifying the strengths and weaknesses of energy supply and analysing energy consumption in Buffalo City. What we have found is that although we have major potential, we are not using it effectively enough. At the local level we know that for a sustainable future, coal for instance is not the right source of energy, and we also need to avoid energy loss. We need to take a bottom-up approach and feed these findings upward into national energy policymaking processes, so that energy laws and regulations are amended.'

'What's the difference between a traditional city-to-city partnership or twining arrangement, and a municipal theme-based partnership such as a climate partnership, for instance?'

Wolfgang Grätz: 'In the cooperation between Hamburg and Dar es Salaam there is no major difference. Our traditional city-to-city partnership is based among other things on

- traditional Technical Cooperation, which is designed to improve people's lives and particularly public services in the African partner municipality, for instance in the fields of sanitation, the fire service and health.
- mutual learning through intercultural communication, scientific exchange and meetings between civil society actors.

We can say the same thing about our climate partnership. Here, since 2015 Technical Cooperation has been piloting a project to construct a composting plant for urban green waste. Actually it was supposed to have been completed in 2018, but personnel changes, bureaucratic hurdles and the rainy season led to delays. With regard to mutual learning, a youth exchange scheme to address climate justice is also under way.

The climate partnership intensifies the thematic cooperation and the technical cooperation, which now differs significantly from the earlier work of our partnership. This type of cooperation also entails new challenges, however, including the problem of the lack of exemption from value-added tax. So far, municipal development cooperation actors have not been exempted. This is because when the exemption was agreed for official development cooperation a long time ago, no one had municipal actors in mind at that point.'



Wolfgang Grätz

'In Rwanda there is a national Ministry of Local Government. Isn't that a contradiction in terms?'

Alfred Mahirwe: 'No, local governments are always independent as well as financially autonomous. But the Ministry does support them in discharging their mandate and performing their local tasks more efficiently. To provide guidance, we localise our key national strategies and pass them on to the districts as district development strategies. This is how Rwanda implements its key strategies at the national and local levels. Rwanda is strongly committed to implementing Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda, which is why it integrates them into its national development plans. However, we frequently encounter financial obstacles. And some of the goals are difficult for our country to achieve. This is why Rwanda has made a few of the goals priorities that we believe we can realistically achieve.'



Alfred Mahirwe

'There are several agendas for sustainable development in Africa. To be specific there are Agenda 2063, the 2030 Agenda and Germany's "Marshall Plan with Africa". These are also supposed to be implemented locally. Are policy-makers not asking too much of local actors by doing this?'

Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann: 'It's only at first glance that this appears to be a challenge, but in fact there is no inconsistency between these agendas. The Marshall Plan with Africa, for instance, is based on the 2030 Agenda. With these agendas each actor determines where their focus lies. The 2030 Agenda is a global agenda for all countries. Agenda 2063 focuses on Africa-specific themes, and the Marshall Plan with Africa shows what Germany can do for sustainable development in Africa.

It is difficult to localise a global agenda. The Service Agency's project "Municipalities for Global Sustainability" offers a good approach here. It supports municipalities in developing strategies for sustainability. "Municipal Partnerships for Sustainability" is another area where municipalities can support each other in implementing the 2030 Agenda, and share their experiences and solutions by working together regularly on a practical and structured basis on themes covered by the 2030 Agenda. In particular, they should also involve citizens and civil society.'

'Agenda 2063 sets out ambitious goals at policy level. Are local actors even capable of implementing this Agenda?'

Erastus J. O. Mwencha: 'Let's take Buffalo City in South Africa as an example. Here people need not necessarily draw their electricity from the major electricity provider ESKOM. They can also produce it themselves using photovoltaic systems. In this respect municipalities can become creative and thus help implement the agendas. The national and local levels always need to work together closely. Let me give you an example. It is beyond the capability of a coffee farmer in Rwanda to monitor developments in the price of coffee on the global market, and draw appropriate consequences from these trends. On the other hand, this is best achieved at the national level.

Unlike in the case of the Millennium Development Goals, those who developed the 2030 Agenda listened to the voices of African countries. And in these countries, national governments in turn listened to the voices of the local level.

Today, Africa knows itself where it requires support, and communicates this clearly for instance at the summits between the African Union and the European Union.'

'Do the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 support local work for sustainability, or is implementing them also a burden for municipalities?'

Neermala Gounden: 'In its local work, Buffalo City addresses the themes of the 17 SDGs in any case. But it's also always important to keep the local development plan in mind and link the 2030 Agenda to it. This is how we contribute to global sustainable development at the local level. It is also important that the municipality takes responsibility for economically sustainable development.

'What benefits does Hamburg gain from engaging with the 2030 Agenda when working in partnership?'

Wolfgang Grätz: 'We hope that the citizens of Hamburg will take a closer look at Africa as part of the global learning process. This global learning process takes place first of all through schools. But every trip to Dar es Salaam gives our citizens an opportunity to familiarise themselves with real life in Tanzania and to find out more about the needs of people there.



Neermala Gounden

Together, people from Hamburg and Dar es Salaam can then develop an understanding of what's good for people there, and what's good for our world too.

Municipalities should see in the 2030 Agenda not just 17 separate goals, but rather the universally valid message: Whatever you do, do it sustainably! The 2030 Agenda should be a constant reminder to manage resources carefully – including financial resources.'

'How can Europe create real benefits for Africa through regional cooperation?'

Erastus J. O. Mwencha: "'Africa maintains several regional dialogue platforms, for instance with the EU¹, the USA, China and

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1 European Union
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Japan, which usually take place every two years. When we look at the history of these dialogues we find of course that we have a colonial history, and that the dialogue with Europe for instance goes back to Cold War times when development cooperation was marked by structural adjustment programmes and conditionality.

Africa has since outgrown a donor-recipient relationship of this kind, and now seeks cooperation between real partners. If Europe wants to support us today, we don't want to be told what we have to do. Instead we want to tell our European partners what we plan to do and in what areas we would like to ask for support.

More and more people around the world are taking to the streets and demanding more democracy and more jobs, among other things. Governments can no longer ignore this. The time to act already began yesterday.'

What would you like to see in 2063?



Neermala Gounden (right)

'I'd like us to have achieved the SDGs by 2063.'

Neermala Gounden



- → City-to-city partnership Hamburg Dar es Salaam
- ightarrow Ministry of Local Government, Rwanda



Alfred Mahirwe

'In 2063 I'd like to see a safe world and stable development.'

Alfred Mahirwe



Wolfgang Grätz (right)

'In the year 2063 a little girl will say: "50 years ago my grandfather from Hamburg and my grandmother from Dar es Salaam met and fell in love." Partnerships can also produce results like this.'

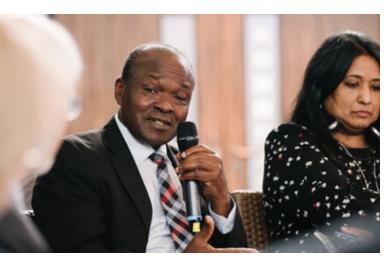
Wolfgang Grätz

'I hope that in 2063 the municipal partnerships we launched in 2019 still exist and that the partners are still working together intensively – albeit under quite different circumstances, because by that time the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 will have been achieved.' Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann

Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann



Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann



Erastus J. O. Mwencha

'I hope that in 2063 Africa will be an equal partner of the international community and have a seat on the UN Security Council.'

Erastus J. O. Mwencha

6. SHARING LESSONS LEARNED – PRACTITIONERS WORKING TOGETHER AS PARTNERS

The centrepiece of the conference was the sharing of lessons learned. This took the form of a barcamp at which participants discussed their respective experiences and expertise on practical issues that arise when municipalities work together in partnership. The special feature of the barcamp format is its openness. Participants decide on the spur of the moment what they wish to discuss in small groups. Some of the findings that emerged are summarised below.

6.1. Expectations of the African and German partners

What do the African partners expect?

- → Usually, African municipalities expect from their partnership with a German municipality a transfer of know-how and technologies on key municipal tasks. The specific expectations vary widely depending on the respective local challenges. Themes range from waste management to energy efficiency. In these areas they see that their expertise is frequently not sufficient for sustainable development.
- → The German partners are often unable to meet these expectations. In wastewater management, for instance, the technical conditions in the German and the African municipality are often not comparable. In the health sector too, for example, knowledge of how to implement German hygiene standards does not help, particularly in rural regions of Africa, because the hygiene conditions differ too much.
- → African partners are also interested in areas where technical differences are not important. For instance, a number of African municipalities would like to learn from their German partners how they involve other actors, such as civil society stakeholders, in their work.

Migrant actors can make a major contribution to the planning and implementation of partnership projects in a municipality. They are usually very familiar with the local conditions and can provide language support.



Working in small groups

How do the German partners benefit?

- → The German partners benefit hugely from getting to know the everyday reality (of work) in Africa, which is often very different from their life in Germany. In the partner municipality they see which aspects of everyday life in Africa can enrich the way they work and live in Germany.
- → Through their engagement for the partnership in Germany, German municipalities can demonstrate that they take very seriously their task of implementing the 2030 Agenda. After all, the SDGs do not apply just at home. They apply globally, and those actively involved are called upon to contribute whatever they can. In the eyes of the public, through their engagement in Africa a mayor for instance can enhance their profile by setting an example for a cosmopolitan city.
- → Partnerships with African municipalities open up entirely new horizons for the German

actors, which partnerships with western European municipalities in France, the UK or Italy are not able to do. Having said that, far fewer financial, human and organisational resources are required for western European partnerships. Furthermore, when travelling to Africa many citizens do have concerns about health and safety.

6.2. Sharing lessons learned – Knowledge management as a catalyst for partnerships

Many German-African municipal partnerships implement similar projects. They face similar challenges, for instance regarding the planning and implementation process or the involvement of different stakeholders. Here it would be helpful if there were even more opportunities for municipalities to share the lessons they have learned, and if municipalities were also to make use of these opportunities. This would enable them to save a great deal of energy and resources, and design their projects more creatively – because the more relevant experience that goes into an idea for a project, the better the project can be planned and implemented.

Documenting lessons learned and processes is not sufficient, however. This documentation also has to be available to interested municipalities. Consequently, 'Let's be willing to network' is even more important than 'Let's share our experiences!'



Putting ideas and findings from the barcamp sessions together

So far there have been only a few platforms for sharing lessons learned in this way, although it is possible to find good practice examples and reports by practitioners online. Yet here too obstacles arise, for instance when the lessons learned are documented in a language that the partnerships seeking information do not speak.



Participants sharing their experiences



Active PR work and regular reporting simplify mutual dialogue.

The Service Agency offers many opportunities to network and dialogue, not least through the project The 2030 Agenda – Local governance exchange with African partners. Beyond their own partnerships, municipalities can also dialogue on municipal issues using the Connective Cities platform.

- → The 2030 Agenda Local governance exchange with African partners
- → Connective Cities

6.3. Networking and coordinating partnerships between municipalities

When municipalities wish to cooperate across continents they do not need an official twinning arrangement. A project-based partnership is entirely adequate for this purpose. This can be devoted for instance to a particular technical issues such as waste management, on which the partners wish to dialogue and share expertise for a limited period of time. As well as official municipal partnerships, the Service Agency and the EU also support twinning schemes and project partnerships.

As well as their German-African partnerships, many municipalities also maintain other municipal partnerships. To better coordinate these, it is helpful to explore with all the actors involved in your own municipality where there is potential for synergy and where resources can be pooled.

A further option for improved networking is three-way or triangular cooperation arrangements, i.e. partnerships between three municipalities. In most cases two of them are already partners, and they then decide to integrate a third municipality – which in many cases is also a partner municipality – into their cooperation. One example is Lahnstein in Rhineland-Palatinate and its French partner Vence, which are implementing education and environmental projects in their joint partner municipality of Ouahigouya in Burkina Faso.



The 2030 Agenda with its 17 SDGs can provide a framework for improved coordination and cooperation, and identify potential synergies.

6.4. Overcoming intercultural challenges

All municipal partnerships aspire to work together as equal partners. Nonetheless, the actors involved must always be careful to ensure that cooperation does not become 'donor-driven' and that specific deficits in the municipality from the Global South do not become too much of a focus of the partnership.



Chatting informally between the barcamp sessions

The ways in which the German African partners work differ in many respects – with the differences ranging from regulations on the financial management of projects to different ways of communicating. Intercultural training courses are a good way to ensure that these intercultural differences do not adversely affect project work



Presenting the results from the barcamp

7. KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND TOPICS FOR PRACTICAL WORK IN PARTNERSHIP

In eight workshops, participants discussed various aspects of working together in partnership. As with the barcamp, here too they were able to bring their expertise to bear and jointly design the workshops together with the Service Agency. For each topic one German-African partnership presented its work as a good practice example and as a basis for discussion.

7.1. Climate proofing urban development

Good practice example: Dortmund (Germany) – Kumasi (Ghana)

with inputs by Michael Leischner and Sophie Arens, City of Dortmund, and Joshua Nii Noye Tetteh-Nortey, Kumasi Metropolitan District



Joshua Nii Noye Tetteh-Nortey

Adaptation to the impacts of climate change takes place chiefly at the local level. In municipalities specific precautions are taken for instance against torrential rainfall events or heat waves. Since climate change affects many aspects of municipal life, it is the responsibility of local authorities to treat adaptation as a cross-cutting task across all departments, and incorporate it into urban development at various levels. Dortmund and Kumasi are linked by a climate partnership in which they are both jointly committed to urban development that is climate-proofed. As a result, since 2017 more than 58,000 trees have been planted in Kumasi. The target for the end of 2020 is 120,000. The historical background to this is as follows. Between 1986 and 2014 alone the city lost more than 40 per cent of its planted areas. Children and teenagers are now responsible for watering and caring for the young trees.

In Dortmund, in 2018 the city council decided to draw up a master plan for adapting to climate change and to define specific measures for this purpose. Here Dortmund is relying on the participation of all relevant actors, including civil society and citizens.



In September 2019 Dortmund also hosted the Connective Cities dialogue event Climate proofing urban development. Readers can look up various presentations by visiting the website.

→ Climate proofing urban development

7.2. Education for Sustainable Development – is it still important? ?

Good practice example: Cologne (Germany) - Tunis (Tunisia)

with an input by Jörg Naumann, Integrated Expert, City of Tunis

According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) empowers every individual to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitude and values they need in order to build a sustainable future. 'Quality education' (SDG 4) also plays a key role in the Sustainable Development Goals.



Jörg Naumann reporting on his work in Tunis

Twinning schemes can contribute to ESD in many ways – not just school exchange – as a project of the partnership between Cologne and Tunis demonstrates. Since 2017 Jörg Naumann has been working in the Tunisian capital as an integrated expert as part of the programme 'Experts for Municipal Partnerships Worldwide', which is run by the Service Agency and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). He is employed by the municipality, where he reports to the Director-General for Environmental Protection. He works in the field of waste management.

To raise awareness of waste-related issues among the citizens of Tunis, he is relying on existing structures. The 'school of cleanliness', which was originally a municipal institution for in-house staff training, is now increasingly being used to conduct an educational programme for school and kindergarten groups on the topic of waste.

The 'Plastic waste – Last stop the sea' exhibition, which had previously been successfully presented in Switzerland, has now been brought to Tunis, where it has been integrated into a comprehensive educational programme. The next step will be to show the exhibition in Cologne, which will underline the joint engagement of the two partner cities for sustainable development.



The Service Agency has published a video (subtitles are available) presenting the work of Jörg Naumann in Tunis.

→ Video

7.3. Internet or paving stones? Innovating for jobs in rural Ethiopia

Good practice example: Vaterstetten (Germany) – Alem Katema (Ethiopia) with inputs by Alexander Bestle, Alem Katema Partnership Association, and Desalegn Wondimneh, Partnership Committee Alem Katema

Worldwide more and more people are migrating from rural areas to cities, often because they lack job prospects in the countryside. Cities, on the hand, are increasingly struggling to provide a growing population with the services they need. To mitigate this rural exodus, rural regions need to create training opportunities and jobs for young people.

This is where the partnership between Vaterstetten in Germany and Alem Katema in Ethiopia comes in, with its project to get young people ready for the labour market. The project is supported by the Service Agency's funding programme 'Partnership Projects for Sustainable Local Development' (Nakopa). This has enabled some 1,000 vocational school students to attend entrepreneurship workshops, where they have been able to acquire the key skills they need to become small-scale entrepreneurs. The best students in each year then completed a six day crash course for businesspersons.



Desalegn Wondimneh and Alexander Bestle

At a computer workshop at the vocational school in Alem Katema, six young women met who since the beginning of 2017 have been running the Internet café on their own. They have since expanded it. Furthermore, young people have been trained in producing paving stones – a business with a future in Alem Katema.

7.4. Municipal partnerships as a tool for global development cooperation – Potential, reach and limits

Good practice example: Hanover (Germany) - Blantyre (Malawi)

with inputs by Frauke Gläser, City of Hanover, and Anthony Kasunda, City of Blantyre

When municipalities work together in partnership, they are able to harness the potential inherent in the fact that they are close to citizens and their needs. Municipalities are places where people meet and discuss their concerns.

Municipalities are therefore the appropriate place to try out innovative approaches on a small scale, monitor their effects on the ground and, if they are successful, scale them up. Municipal partnerships enable close cooperation because they are usually long-term in nature and because the actors involved have known each other for a long time. Also, partnerships do not only rely on councillors and administrators. In many cases a large part of the work is performed by civil society, or by committed municipal employees who are working in their spare time.

The potential of municipal partnerships also has its limits, however, particularly due to scarce financial and human resources. This is something from which all municipalities suffer, in Germany and Africa alike. And even though the budget may be bigger in some places, these funds are often earmarked for other purposes, particularly since development cooperation to this day remains a voluntary task for municipalities.

The major challenges of working in partnership include communication. Often a lack of language skills on both sides creates an obstacle. So too do differences in channels and habits of communication. Partners always possess the will to work together as equals. This is often difficult to implement, however, for instance when the German side possesses significantly more know-how in certain fields.



Anthony Kasunda and Frauke Gläser

One good example of the huge potential that municipal partnerships possess for sustainable global development is the partnership between Hanover and Blantyre. With a history that already goes back 50 years, this partnership rests on a solid foundation. This remains true even if we take into account the inactive phases that are also included in this period. These were due to the political situation in Malawi, which neither side was able to influence. Since 2010 the partnership has been reactivated. It is using public funding, for instance from the EU and the Service Agency, to implement projects on various sustainable development topics such as fair trade and sanitation. The partners achieve their extensive reach thanks to the fact that their cooperation relies on broad support across society. Alongside the municipality itself, the Jakaranda Foundation and the Friends of Malawi are strong civil society actors that also drive the partnership's activities.



- → Partnership Hanover Blantyre
- → Jakaranda Foundation

7.5. Localising the 2030 Agenda with African municipalities

Good practice example: Leipzig (Germany) – Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)

with an input by Katja Roloff, City of Leipzig, and Mulu Asthba Nigussie, Entoto Polytechnic College, Addis Ababa

The 2030 Agenda with its 17 SDGs provides a sound basis for municipal partnerships to reflect on their joint work, generate fresh impetus and develop further ideas for projects. German and African municipalities alike are called upon to implement the Agenda at the local level, and in so doing make a contribution to sustainable development. This creates fresh scope for international cooperation and knowledge sharing. At the same time public awareness-raising and outreach work creates many opportunities to draw attention to global challenges.

The Service Agency is supporting such localisation processes. Activities include publicity on the 2030 Agenda in municipalities, the conduct of analyses and surveys of municipal sustainability, and the development of strategies for implementing the 2030 Agenda at the local level.



Mulu Asthba Nigussie presenting the lessons learned by the partnership

With its Nakopa-funded project 'Inclusive Municipality', the Leipzig-Addis Ababa partnership made society in both cities more inclusive for people with disabilities. This aspiration is included in eight of the 17 SDGs. From 2016 to 2019, the partnership staged the 'City in the city' inclusive holiday game in both cities, produced a tactile children's book on both cities entitled 'How I see my city', and worked with school students to create accessible school gardens.



Leipzig and Addis Ababa have produced a short film to present the work of the Nakopa project.

→ Video

7.6. Gender and climate change

Good practice example: Bremen (Germany) – Durban (South Africa)

with an input by Dr Shazia Wülbers, Free Hanseatic City of Bremen



Clemens Olbrich, Service Agency, providing participants with an introduction to the topic

In all countries, climate change hits hardest those whose livelihoods are dependent on natural resources and who have barely any way to protect themselves against natural hazards such as drought, landslides, flooding or storms. The people who bear the brunt are often those who have only little income or live in poverty.

According to the United Nations women are particularly badly affected by poverty, and thus are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Land use, food cultivation and energy are key areas for adaptation to climate change, and women play a central role in all of them. They are often employed in agriculture, are responsible for feeding the family and are dependent on energy for instance when cooking.

Women face many disadvantages on a daily basis due to their gender alone. For them, climate change is one more difficulty along with many others. In rural regions in particular in many African countries women have no access to either education or an income of their own. This is why their interests tend to be ignored, because they are under-represented in many positions where decisions are taken. In the workshop Dr Shazia Wülbers from the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen presented a project supported by the Service Agency that Bremen has been implementing as part of its climate partnership with Durban in South Africa since 2017. In this project so-called ocean champs are trained – young men and women who have no school education or vocational training. The aim is to enable them to play an active youth leadership role to protect marine resources, thus not only making a contribution to environmental protection, but also developing their own social and leadership skills.

Since it is mainly girls and young women who are obliged to perform work in the family in South Africa, a disproportionately high number of them leave school without qualifications and have few labour market opportunities. This is why a large proportion of the ocean champs trained are women, because this gives them a belated opportunity to gain a footing on the labour market.

It emerged in the discussion that so far few projects have intentionally and systematically made gender equality a key focus, even though women clearly face structural disadvantages. There are many projects however, in which gender equality is seen as a cross-cutting issue, or is at least a positive side-effect, as in this example. Participants emphasised how important it is to raise awareness of this issue and to highlight the positive effects for women, so that awareness of the topic continues to grow and gender quality is included as a cross-cutting issue in the design of future projects.



 United Nations: Introduction to gender and climate change

7.7. International school partnerships in municipal partnerships

Good practice example: Hanover (Germany) - Blantyre (Malawi)

with inputs by Silvia Hesse, Friends of Malawi and the Hanover-Blantyre partnership, and Marie da Silva and Luc Deschamps, Jacaranda Foundation



Dialogue in the workshops

International school partnerships within the framework of municipal partnerships can contribute a great deal to global learning, which is one of the main aims of municipal partnerships. One example of this is the school partnership between the List Integrated Comprehensive School in Hanover and Jacaranda School in Blantyre. The special feature of this partnership is that the school students from the North and the Scout visit each other. In other school partnerships, often it is only the students from the North who visit their exchange partners in the South because of the costs involved. Thanks to the school partnership, in both Hanover and Blantyre there are now committed young ambassadors for sustainable global development who can advocate for a closer relationship between the continents in view of the numerous global challenges.

7.8. (More discerning?) images of Africa and Germany

with an input by Tina Adomako, Promoter for Empowerment and Intercultural Opening



Tina Adomako (centre) showing some examples of advertising images and discussing them with participants

Anyone involved in partnerships between municipalities in Germany and Africa will always want to work with their counterparts as equal partners, despite what are often major differences in development. To what extent those involved succeed in doing so will depend to a very significant extent on the images they have of each other, which are influenced by the media and advertising quite substantially.



Examples of how Africa is portrayed in the media - shown here in an exhibition

In the German media we largely tend to see negative reports on Africa, concerning wars and disasters. Advertising too conveys many stereotypical images of Africans. A woman wearing a headscarf, for instance, is rarely shown in a value-free or positive context, while advertising and fashion magazines often portray African women as exotic.

In many cases the work of partnerships is also associated with clichés, for instance when people think about how German municipalities benefit from the partnerships. In this situation, for instance, the cliché that Germans would like to follow the Africans' example of 'being laid back' is quickly evoked. We are permanently exposed to such stereotypical images and sometimes it is extremely difficult to resist being influenced by them. In that case the only thing to do is to remain constantly vigilant and aware.



Marjory Banda

'We share ideas, we learn from each other, we find new friends – the partnership with Hanover means a great deal to me, particularly in my line of work, which is education.'

Marjory Banda, Blantyre

'Viernheim and Silly are very different, and we need to take our time as we approach one another. The interpersonal exchanges are very important to me and we can learn a lot from each other.'

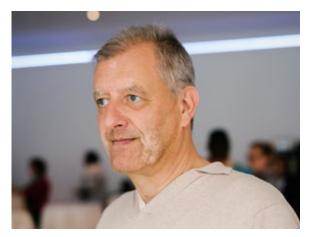
Kamou Konate, Silly



Kamou Konate

'The partnership with Kati in Mali is also a great enrichment for me personally. When I visited our partners it was the first time I'd ever been to Africa. Working together as partners is often strenuous, and sometimes even frustrating. But the moments of success are particularly nice! Unfortunately, the German visa requirements make it more difficult for our Malian partners to visit us in Germany.'

Georg Ohlmann, Erfurt



Georg Ohlmann

8. FROM THE PROJECT IDEA TO IMPLEMENTATION – OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT IN THE FORM OF HUMAN RESOURCES OR FUNDING

To be able to implement the ideas they had gained during the workshops, participants attended a 'market of opportunities' to find out more about the human resources and financial support instruments for municipal partnerships, as well as platforms for dialogue and exchange, and support for establishing and developing partnerships. The Service Agency, other divisions of Engagement Global and other agencies presented their programmes and offered initial advisory services.



The 'market of opportunities'

Funding instruments

8.1. Partnership Projects for Sustainable Local Development (Nakopa)

The Service Agency helps municipalities actively involved in development work to identify – together with their partner municipalities – local solutions to global issues as envisaged by the 2030 Agenda, and to implement these in the form of projects. These projects can address for instance sustainable general interest services, good local governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation, migration and development, or fair trade and fair procurement.

Partnerships with a track record of several years of close cooperation and joint project experience, and partnerships that are actively involved in another Service Agency project, can apply for grants of between 50,000 and 250,000 euros. For particularly large projects they may even apply for up to 500,000 euros. Up to 90 percent of the project costs can be financed. At least ten per cent of the expenditure must be provided by the municipality submitting the proposal in the form of the partners' own funds or third-party funds.

So far, projects have been supported in the following areas: drinking water supply, energy supply, solid waste management, adaptation to climate change and environmental protection, disaster risk management, urban planning, training and support for the municipal fire brigade, and food and nutrition security.

→ Partnership Projects for Sustainable Local Development

8.2. Fund for Small-Scale Municipal Development Cooperation Projects (KPF)

Municipalities can use support from the small projects fund to publicise their engagement for development and gain a broad base of public support. They can network engaged stakeholders in their own municipality, launch new cooperation arrangements, make use of synergies, pursue expert dialogue with international partners and initiate new projects. It is also possible to use this support to evaluate development projects or systematically prepare a project through a study or research.

Projects must engage with one of the following topics: fair trade and fair procurement; migration, development and displacement; international intermunicipal relationships and partnership work, or implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The period of support ends no later than the end of the calendar year, and the grant amounts to between 1,000 and 50,000 euros. The partner municipalities must themselves meet ten per cent of the costs.

→ Fund for Small-Scale Municipal Development Cooperation Projects

8.3. Programme to Support Municipal Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Projects (FKKP)

Experienced German municipalities can apply for funding to support their engagement in the fields of emission reduction, adaptation to climate change, marine and coastal protection, or conservation of forests and biodiversity. The multiannual funding is designed to make the measures in the partner country sustainable beyond the period of project support.

The municipality submitting the project proposal must be taking part in the Municipal Climate Partnerships project. The total costs of the project should always be between 100,000 and 500,000 euros. The municipalities must always contribute ten per cent of the sum total for the project in the form of their own and/or third-party funds.

→ Programme to Support Municipal Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Projects

Instruments for human resources support

8.4. Experts for Municipal Partnerships Worldwide (FKPW)

Implemented by the Service Agency in cooperation with the GIZ, the FKWP programme places experts in municipal partnerships. These experts support the partners in developing – in the municipality in the Global South – concrete solutions to pressing issues such as climate change, municipal finance, sustainable economic development or solid waste management, and in improving municipal services and local self-governance.

Any German municipality or municipal association with a municipal partnership in one of Germany's partner countries for development cooperation can receive these services. The partnership in question need not necessarily be formalised, for instance through an official twinning arrangement.

The experts possess many years' experience of local and urban development, and major expertise in international cooperation for sustainable development.

→ Experts for Municipal Partnerships Worldwide

8.5. Senior Expert Service (SES)

For more than 30 years experts from the SES have been delivering 'know-how made in Germany' to developing countries and emerging economies around the world. The experts are either retired, on sabbatical or are otherwise taking time out from professional activity. Since 1983 there have been more than 50,000 SES assignments to 160 countries, approximately one third of which were in Germany.

The SES Is run by the umbrella organisations of German industry: the Federation of German Industries (BDI), the Confederation of German Employer Organisations (BDA), the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK) and the German Confederation of Skilled Crafts (ZDH).

→ Senior Expert Service

Programs to support professional dialogue and exchange, and the establishment and development of partnerships

8.6. The 2030 Agenda: Local Governance Exchange with African Partners

This Service Agency programme supports municipalities in establishing within their municipal partnerships a professional dialogue on implementing the 17 SDGs in both the German and the African partner municipality. It also supports the municipalities in learning from each other by working together as equal partners, and in sharing knowledge and lessons learned on implementing the 2030 Agenda.

To provide a knowledge base for the professional dialogue the programme prepares



Touring the 'market stalls' together

studies on localising the 2030 Agenda in specific African countries. It also supports the municipal partnerships in all phases of the localisation process, from raising public awareness of the 2030 Agenda through to planning joint projects for implementation. Finally, the programme provides advisory support and funds trips for professional dialogue on the 2030 Agenda.

→ The 2030 Agenda - Local Governance Exchange with African Partners

8.7. Municipal Climate Partnerships

This Service Agency project strengthens and supports professional cooperation between German municipalities and municipalities in Africa, Latin America and Asia in the fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The aim is to systematically integrate the topics addressed into the existing work of the municipal partnerships.

In each phase of the project – the next one will begin in 2020 – approximately ten climate partnerships get together. Each partnership comprises one German municipality and a municipality from the Global South. The Service Agency advises and supports the municipalities over a two-year period. Each partnership draws up a joint, long-term strategic programme of action for climate change mitigation and adaptation. As well as a joint vision this also includes specific objectives, measures and resources.

The target groups of the project are municipal administrators and councillors, as well as selected civil society stakeholders, in both partner municipalities.

→ Municipal Climate Partnerships

8.8. Connective Cities

Connective Cities is an international community of practice for sustainable urban development. It promotes dialogue between experts from the Global South and Germany, regardless of existing municipal partnerships. It networks good ideas so that cities can profit from the solutions that other cities have already identified.

The community of practice aims to bring together practitioners and project managers so that they can share lessons learned and pursue joint learning. Furthermore e-learning, online dialogues, conferences, workshops, training measures and expert fact-finding missions create a wealth of opportunities for continued education and networking. Through an online portal, Connective Cities offers access to international experience. The four thematic clusters of the network are: good urban governance, local economic development, integrated urban development and municipal services.

Connective Cities is a partnership between the German Association of Cities, Engagement Global and the GIZ, commissioned by the BMZ.

→ Connective Cities

8.9. Round Tables and Regional Conferences

The Round Tables and Regional Conferences series' of events are networking platforms to promote the sharing of knowledge and experience between German municipalities with partnerships in specific countries and regions of the Global South.

The Round Tables aim to boost networking among the German municipalities and promote professional dialogue. The events are needs-based and focus on specific countries. In the past, Round Tables were held on Argentina, Burkina Faso, China, Mongolia and Nicaraguan.

The Regional Conferences are designed for delegates from German municipalities who together with their partners from the Global South would like to discuss issues of sustainable cooperation at the local level. Conferences on each region – Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America/the Caribbean – are held once every three years, on a rotating basis. The next Regional Conference on Africa is planned for 2022.

→ Round Tables and Regional Conferences

8.10. Local Governance Exchange between Rhineland-Palatinate and Rwanda

The 'Local Governance Exchange Rhineland-Palatinate – Rwanda' programme brings local authorities, local governance training institutions and municipal associations from Rhineland-Palatinate and Rwanda together for purposes of dialogue and exchange. The project is being implemented by Engagement Global's Service Agency and the Rhineland-Palatinate Ministry of the Interior and Sport. The partnership between RhinelandPalatinate and Rwanda has existed for 38 years and enjoys broad public support on both sides. Building on this, the programme initiates professional dialogue on the delivery of basic local services and/or aspects of local governance, and supports the joint development of ideas for projects designed to deliver results.

→ Local Governance Exchange Rhineland-Palatinate – Rwanda

8.11. Local Development Cooperation between Bavaria and Tunisia

As part of local development cooperation between Bavaria and Tunisia, the Service Agency promotes the sharing of lessons learned between Bavarian and Tunisian municipalities on topics of local self-governance and sustainable municipal development. This takes place within the partnership between Bavaria and Tunisia, which has existed since 2012. This local partnership work is designed to support Tunisia's democratic transformation progress and sustainable development at the local level. The project is being implemented in cooperation with the Hanns Seidel Foundation, in close consultation with the Bavarian State Chancellery.

→ Local Development Cooperation between Bavaria and Tunisia (German only)

8.12. Sharing of Knowledge between Municipalities in the Maghreb and Germany

The project 'Sharing of Knowledge between Municipalities in the Maghreb and Germany' aims to promote the sharing of knowledge and lessons learned between Algerian, Tunisian and Moroccan municipalities, and municipalities in Germany, based on the joint implementation of municipal projects. This builds capacities for dealing with challenges at the local level on both sides.

The project is being implemented in cooperation with the GIZ.

→ Sharing of Knowledge between Municipalities in the Maghreb and Germany

8.13. School Exchange Programme for Development Education (ENSA)

Engagement Global's ENSA programme promotes existing and new partnerships between secondary and vocational schools in Germany, and in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Southeast Europe. It provides financial support, advisory services, training and networking for teachers and school students. The ENSA programme attaches particular importance to supporting socially and structurally disadvantaged youths.



Participants finding out which support instruments would be suitable for their activities

It aims to enable school students to understand global interdependencies, pass on the lessons they learn in their social environment, and join together in working for greater global justice in the world.

Among other things, the programme supports preparatory trips and exchange trips for school students. Applications can be submitted by schools, parents' associations and support associations, as well as non-governmental organisations that work with schools.

→ School Exchange Programme for Development Education (German only) 'The partnership with Thiès in Senegal is highly valued in Solingen, because it's become a key area of the city's sustainability strategy.'

Sofia Thives-Kurenbach, Solingen



Sofia Thives-Kurenbach

'I'm surprised how many partnerships there also are between small municipalities, and how diverse the municipal partnerships are. Here at the conference I've talked to a lot of other African delegates.'

Luc Deschamps, Blantyre



Luc Deschamps

9. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

To conclude the conference Kurt-Michael Baudach, Department Head for Municipal Partnerships – States and Regions, Service Agency/Engagement Global, summarised the content and results of the conference.



From left to right: Kurt-Michael Baudach, Marjory Banda, Anthony Kasunda and Frauke Gläser

The roughly 150 Participants from Germany and Africa used the fourth 'Conference of Municipal Partnerships with Africa' to engage in intensive dialogue and to learn from each other. They were also able to gain an overview of the wide range of support available for their work, particularly the support on offer from the Service Agency.

'What impressed me was how motivated the participants were and how much they enjoyed the dialogue, which helped make the conference what it was.'

Kurt-Michael Baudach

The conference also highlighted the diversity of the German-African partnerships. The size of the municipalities alone varies widely. Some of them face very different challenges, and are working on a wide range of topics in projects large and small in their partnerships. The partnerships face diverse challenges, such as language barriers or conflicts of interest. The range of actors involved in the partnerships is also a wide one, encompassing children, associations, administrators and counsellors.

The level of commitment to particular issues and to further developing the partnerships is very high, and during the conference all the actors showed how they set themselves joint objectives in their partnerships, implement these and overcome challenges. Thanks to this active participation and the lively and frank dialogue among all participants, the conference was a complete success.

'The conference participants were able to see how other partnerships work and what kind of projects they are implementing. I was able to learn a lot and share my experiences.'

Marjory Banda, Blantyre



The plenary hall

10. ANNEX

10.1 Agenda

Day of arrival, Sunday, 8 September 2019

Arrive and meet informally Agenda for the day				
Time	ltem			
From 15:00	Check-in at the 'Designhotel Wienecke XI' or the 'Median Hotel'			
17:00	Sightseeing tour of Hanover Meeting point: lobby of the Wienecke Hotel			
19:00	Informal get-together with savoury snack Where: lobby of the Wienecke Hotel			

Day 1 of the Conference, Monday, 9 September 2019

	Agenda of the day				
Time	Item				
From 09:00	Registration				
10:00	 Official opening and welcome addresses Nicole Ewert, Head of Division, International Cooperation and Development Politics, State Chancellery of Lower Saxony Thomas Hermann, Mayor, city of Hanover (capital of Lower Saxony) Dr Stefan Wilhelmy, Devision Manager, Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)/ Engagement Global 				
10:20	Welcome by the team of moderators and presentation of the agenda – kicking off the day				
10:50	 Development cooperation with Africa – Strategies, priorities and the role of municipalities Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann, Head of Division, Federal states – local authorities, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) 				
11:15	Coffee break				
11:30	 "The Africa we want" - Development cooperation from an African perspective Erastus J. O. Mwencha, former Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission 				
12:00	 Panel discussion - Prospects for German-African development cooperation Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann (BMZ) Erastus J. O. Mwencha Alfred Mahirwe, Ministry of Local Government, Republic of Rwanda Neermala Gounden, Manager Development Cooperation and International Relations, Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality Wolfgang Grätz, Head of Division for Development Cooperation, Hamburg Senate Chancellery 				
13:00	Group photo				
13:10	Lunch				

14:30	 Sharing practical lessons learned when working together as partners Which topics motivate you to work with your partners? On which topics would you like to share ideas with other actors? On which topics can you advise other municipalities? Presentation of the BarCamp method and session planning
15:00	Two rounds of sharing practical lessons learned when working together as partners (including coffee break)
17:00	Get-Together in plenary
17:15	End of Day 1 of the conference
18:30	Set off together for the <i>Kulturzentrum Pavillon</i> using public transport Meeting point: Underground railway (U-Bahn) station 'Hanover Wiehbergstraße'
19:00	Informal evening programme – Dinner and opening of a photo exhibition on the 50 years of partnership between Hanover and Blantyre Location: Kulturzentrum Pavillon; Lister Meile 4, 30161 Hanover

Day 2 of the Conference, Tuesday, 10 September 2019

	Agenda of the day
Time	Item
08:30	Registration
09:00	Kicking off the day / review of Day 1
09:45	 Transferring knowledge on practical topics for work in partnership (2 workshop rounds, including a coffee break) Joint learning on climate proofing urban development Good practice example: Dortmund - Kumasi (Ghana) Education for Sustainable Development - is that still important too? Input provided by: Jörg Naumann, Integrated Expert (Tunis) Internet versus bricks? Job creating innovations in rural Ethiopia Good practice example: Vaterstetten - Alem Katema (Ethiopia) Municipal partnerships as a tool for global development cooperation - potential, reach and limits Good practice example: Hanover - Blantyre (Malawi) Localising the 2030 Agenda with African municipalities Good practice example: Bremen - Durban (South Africa) International school partnerships within municipal partnerships Good practice example: Hanover - Blantyre (Malawi) with the ENSA-Programme from Engagement Global (More discerning?) Images of Africa and Germany Input provided by: Tina Adomako, Promoter for Empowerment and Intercultural
12:45	Opening Lunch
14:00	Get-Together in plenary
17.00	det logether in piendry

15:00	 Market of opportunities for financial and human resources support from Engagement Global's Service Agency, and beyond: Partnership Projects for Sustainable Local Development (Nakopa) Programme to Support Municipal Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Projects (FKKP) Fund for Small-Scale Municipal Development Cooperation Projects (KPF) Experts for Municipal Partnerships Worldwide (FKPW) 2030 Agenda - Expert dialogue with African partners Connective Cities School exchange Programme for Development (ENSA) Senior Expert Service (SES) Municipal Climate Partnerships 10. Specimen resolution - 'The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Building Sustainability at the Local Level'
17:00	 Concluding remarks on the conference Kurt-Michael Baudach, Department Head, Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)/ Engagement Global
17:20	End of Day 2 of the conference
18:30	Set off together for the town hall using public transport Meeting point: Underground railway (U-Bahn) station 'Hanover Wiehbergstraße'
19:00	 Evening reception at Hanover Town Hall Thomas Hermann, Mayor, City of Hanover Dinner, with African sounds provided by 'African Tam Tam' Location: Neues Rathaus Hanover, Gartensaal Trammplatz 2, 30159 Hanover

Day 3 of the Conference, Wednesday, 11 September 2019

Agenda of the day				
Time	Item			
09:00 bis	Offer open to municipal partnerships			
12:00 Uhr	On the Wednesday morning the premises of the Designhotel Wienecke XI. will be at the			
	disposal of the German municipalities and their partners for their work meetings. This will			
	provide an opportunity to once again share lessons learned in depth with other German			
	and African municipalities. And it will give municipalities a chance to put questions			
	directly to Service Agency staff, who will be available for this purpose in the morning.			

10.2. List of participants

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	Augusto Saico	Baldé	Partnership Bonn - Cape Coast, Germany
	Sidbewende Mathieu	Balima	OCADES Caritas Tenkodogo, Burkina Faso
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	Anja	Becker-Nikolai	City of Schopfheim, Germany
	Xenia	Behnke	Lower Saxony State Chancellery, Germany
	Tébi Eric	Benao	Mayor of Silly, Burkina Faso
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Title	First name	Family Name	Municipality/ Institution
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- → No. 43: Network Meeting Migration and Development at the Local Level. 9-10 November 2015 in Cologne. Report. Bonn, October 2016

Material-Series:

- → No. 106: "Building Bridges", Report of the fourth German-Palestinian Municipal Partnership Conference, 24 to 27 September 2019 in Brühl, Germany. Bonn, May 2020
- → No. 105: International Kick-off workshop for the seventh phase of the project "Municipal Climate Partnerships". 14 to 16 May 2019 in Bonn. Bonn, March 2020
- → No. 98: Third European Network Meeting "Migration and development at the local level: Sharing experiences and creating ideas". 28 to 29. November 2017 in Cologne. Bonn, September 2018
- → No. 96: First conference on municipal partnerships with Eastern Europe. 23 to 25 October 2017 in Esslingen. Bonn, March 2018
- → No. 95: Second Conference on Municipal Partnerships with Asia, 19 to 21 June 2017 in Bonn. Bonn, November 2017
- → No. 90: Second European Network Meeting Migration & Development at the Local Level: Linking Actors and Policies. 29th -30th November 2016 in Cologne. Report. Bonn, August 2017

- → No. 86: International Kick-off Workshop, 5. Phase "50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015". 12th-14th July 2016 Science City of Munoz, Philippines. Documentation. Bonn, March 2017
- → No. 85: Third Conference on Municipal Partnerships with Africa - Sustainable Partnerships on Equal Terms, 19 to 21 October in Erfurt, Documentation. Bonn, March 2017
- → No. 80: German-Latin American/Caribbean Mayors' Conference – 'Urbanisation in Germany', Hamburg, 30 to 31 May 2016. Bonn, November 2016
- → No. 77: Second Conference of German-Palestinian Municipal Partnerships. 10 to 13 November 2015 in Jena. Bonn, July 2016

Other publications:

- → About us. Bonn, September 2018
- → The services we offer. Bonn, January 2019
- → Municipalities for Global Sustainability and the 17 SDGs. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Bonn, July 2018

Supporters and cooperating partners - The shareholding structure of the Service Agency

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On behalf of



Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development