

AGYI Learning Paper

Key take-aways of the AGYI Pilot Phase

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

African
Union 




WESSA


**RESEAU
AGYI BENIN**

**ENGAGEMENT
GLOBAL** 
Service für Entwicklungsinitiativen

Overview

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(1) Contributors and multiple perspectives

Implementing Structures: Tanzania Youth Coalition (TYC), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), Réseau AGYI Bénin (RAB)

Engagement Global: weltwärts program, ASA program, ENSA program, CHAT der WELTEN program, KDAJ

Others: African Union, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Bundesvereinigung Kulturelle Kinder- und Jugendbildung (bkj), Bundesministerium für Entwicklung und wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit (BMZ)



(2) The Framework: Standards and Indicators

AGYI M&E Framework

IVCO Global Standards for Volunteering for Quality

- The common **AGYI objectives and indicators** and the **IVCO (International Volunteer Cooperation Organisations) Global Standards for Volunteering for quality** have been used to establish a **joint framework for the analysis of learning experiences** in the process of building support structures and services in the African partner countries and Germany in the context AGYI.
- The defined objectives, standards and indicators of AGYI and IVCO represent the **starting and reference point for each analysis**. Based on identified challenges the paper aims to elaborate “**why**” and „**how**“ **the described measures improved the framework conditions** for exchange and volunteering.



(3) The Target Group

The Learning has been developed for an informed public including:

- The different **exchange programmes** of Engagement Global
- **Sending and Hosting organizations** that have been participating in the framework of AGYI
- **Government Institutions** of the Pilot Countries
- **African Union Commission**



(4) The Topics and challenges

Quality in Exchange

Advocacy
Alumni Support
Expectation
Alumni Networks
Financial asymmetries
Quality Support Systems
Preparation of African Volunteers
Participation in Partnerships
Skills Development
Youth Engagement
Placements
Network-based approaches
Inclusion
Safeguarding
Quality Management Systems
Matching
Systems

Quantity in Exchange

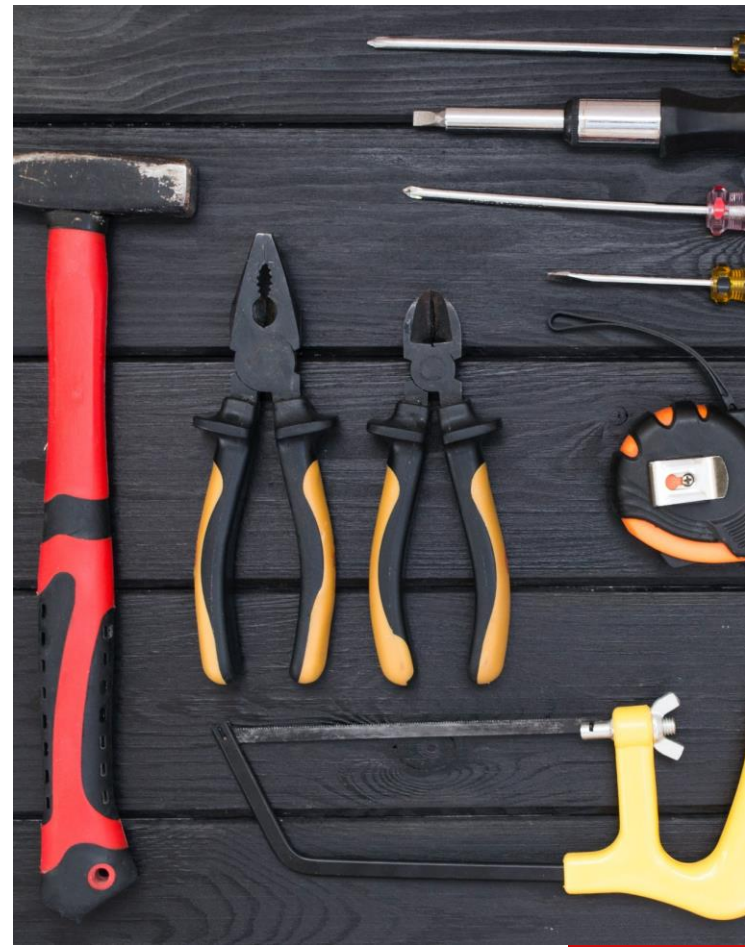
Partner Matching formats
New exchange opportunities
New Partnerships
Digital formats



(5) The Toolbox

All products of the AGYI Pilot Phase have been summarized and put together in a toolbox. The different tools include:

- **Guidelines** for Training and Good Practices
- **Studies** and Publication
- **Innovative** Exchange and Partner Matching **Formats**
- **Alumni** Support Tools
- **Service Offers**
- **Networks**
- **Platforms**



(6) Key take-aways and recommendations (a)

1. (New) **partnerships** and exchange programmes need to strive for **equal, fair and reciprocal** cooperation and framework conditions, taking into account structural challenges
2. Continue to lobby on the important structural barrier of **visa issues** in the framework of youth exchanges
3. Create more **balance in financial support mechanisms**, considering and activating different partner contribution capacities and increasing transparency of the repartition of funds.
4. Define and put in place a clear mechanism to **finance and encourage South-South exchanges** (under the lead of the African Union)



(6) Key take-aways and recommendations (b)

5. Strengthen and enhance the role and **representation of South Partners in program steering** and program and quality development processes
6. Appreciate and support needs in terms of **preparation and alumni support** equally in Germany and partner countries.
7. **Placements and Matching** need more attention. Appreciate different lenses and expectations and use more digitalized, participant-driven and supported approaches for partner-matching
8. Ensure more **transparency, professionalism and inclusion in the relationship between hosting and sending organizations and volunteer placements** by encouraging dialogue opportunities between German and African partners



(6) Key take-aways and recommendations (c)

9. Make **programs and partnerships more inclusive** (participants, language, gender, access, communication, level of education; urban vs. rural; complexity of application procedures)
10. Support **network formation and dialogue** opportunities for **more cohesion** in the African context of exchange at a national and continental level.
11. Put in place a flexible, independent and network-based coordination mechanism embedded in the **European-African partnership** to take African-German Youth exchange to the next level



(6) Key take-aways and recommendation (d)

12. Look at hard (employment/career-oriented) and soft (personal, interpersonal & intercultural) **skills components** within programs, support participant learning journeys and create a skills-based exchange format for apprentices and young professionals
13. Take the COVID 19 crisis and Climate change impact as an opportunity to further explore and strengthen **innovative formats based** e.g. on virtual and youth-led approaches





“I feel so much braver and more confident after the conference, and I ask myself: How could I have grown so much? You guys have allowed me to think out of the box.”

Venice, SADC Team Member Countdown 2030 and beyond!

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