

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Unlocking the employment potential of the Global Gateway: Linking skills development to EU investments and value chain developments in Sub-Saharan Africa

Start date: **6 September 2024**

End date: **3 November 2024**

Why this Call for Proposals for Opportunity-driven Vocational Education and Training?

Investments in Africa are essential to help create the much needed decent jobs for Africans. This is at the core of the EU Global Gateway Investment Package for Africa. However, investors may be held back when available skills do not match their quantitative and qualitative needs, including in value chains related to the primary investment. This calls for a paradigm shift in the VET system, in close collaboration with the private sector, to reverse-engineer the training offer to the job opportunities these investments bring.

What does Opportunity-driven Vocational Education and Training (VET) mean?

- **Paradigm shift:** a different approach to how the training offer is designed. It is **reverse-engineered from concrete job opportunities**, which means that the starting point for the design of opportunity-driven VET interventions are real job opportunities arising from investments.
- The opportunity-driven approach to VET acknowledges that VET does not create jobs. Instead **VET acts as an enabler and support function** for decent employment. This requires that VET is coupled with investments, private sector engagement and public private partnerships.

What is the Team Europe Initiative “Opportunity-driven skills and VET in Africa” (TEI OP-VET) about?

- The TEI OP-VET supports the Global Gateway Africa-Europe Investment Package.
- It aims to **link skills development and VET with investments and value chain developments in Global Gateway priority areas** to unlock the employment potential created by these investments/developments.
- It brings **skills development across other sectors as integral part of investments** and promotes private sector development.

What does the TEI OP-VET Call for Proposals offer?

It provides funding for VET projects that follow an opportunity-driven approach, responding to concrete employment opportunities arising from EU investments, trade, (regional) value chain developments and other market dynamics in specific Global Gateway priority areas.

What is important to know about the funding?

- Proposals should...
 - be aligned with the priorities of the EU and its African partner countries and address specific Global Gateway priority areas and related value chains;
 - be designed in close cooperation with the private sector (EU and/or local);
 - address skills shortages impeding investment and value chain development and demonstrate tangible employment potential;
 - improve the capacity of local VET providers to offer employment-relevant training;
 - enhance gender equality.
- Eligible are applications from either a consortium or an individual organisation that partners with other stakeholders, such as local stakeholders from the private sector and VET institutions:
 - Private sector networks (business organisations / associations), private sector companies, foundations, governmental organisations, civil society organisations, public & private VET providers, regional and international organisations.
- Funding window available for applicants: **€1-2 million**
- Funded projects will be implemented during a timeframe of up to 24 months.

What are the specific Global Gateway priorities and related value chains that the selected projects need to address?



- Lobito Corridor and supported value chains
- Port of Cotonou (Benin) and Bujumbura (Burundi) infrastructure & related value chains
- Transport infrastructure
- Access to renewable energy
- Digitalisation
- Health / Pharma
- Green Hydrogen & Access to energy
- Critical raw material value chains
- Urban Mobility
- Agribusiness (incl. Agro logistics for Nigeria)

For more information click on the **country name**.

You are interested and would like to find out more?

Detailed requirements are accessible via the **“Good Grants Platform”** from 6 September.

General online promotion session: 4 Sept. (ENG) 1.30-3 pm (CEST) - access link [HERE](#)

Online info/Q&A sessions for applicants: 12 Sept. (ENG); 16 Sept. (PT); 18 Sept. (FR) & 1 Oct. (ENG)

Access links for those sessions to be found on the Good Grants Platform!

Contact: OP-VET@giz.de