

# Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector

The Trainee Program within the Skills Initiative for Africa is supported by high skilled and well equipped “Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector” (GIA) located all over the African continent. The GIAs are part of the BMZ initiative “EINEWELT ohne Hunger” (“One World – No Hunger Initiative”) with its emphasis on food security and rural development. The goal is to increase local food supply through innovative technologies, increasing income of small scale farmers and job generation especially in the food processing sector.

## AgrarKontakte International e.V.

AgrarKontakte International is a non-profit organisation with more than 30 years of experience in international project management in the agrifood sector organizing, implementing, supervising and providing vocational trainings, organizational development, delegation trips and market research.

**Likewise for the Trainee Program and other services like the Specialized Programs for Students and Experts, AKI is known for its top-notch service and international cooperation on an equal footing.**

[www.agrarkontakte.de](http://www.agrarkontakte.de)



# German-African Trainee Program

## Vocational Training in Agriculture

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HOCHSCHULE WEIHENSTEPHAN-TRIESDORF UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES



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## Skills Initiative for Africa



**The Skills Initiative for Africa is a professional training initiative to improve the economic and social prospects of young people on the African continent initiated by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).**

Project partners are AgrarKontakte International (AKI) e.V., University of Applied Science Weihenstephan-Triesdorf (HSWT), BayWa Foundation and the Green Innovation Center Program of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The Skills Initiative for Africa combats hunger by empowering young Africans engaged in farming and food production to run their own businesses efficiently and sustainably. The initiative's engagement is divided in different professional education and training programs:

- A hands-on vocational Trainee Program on Southern German farms by AKI
- Academic programs ("Food Chains in Agriculture" and "Agricultural Management") by HSWT
- Digital learning platform by Africa Cloud (BMZ/GIZ)
- Exposure seminars for experts and decision makers by the Green Innovation Centres (GIZ)

## German-African Trainee Program



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The German-African Trainee Program is a 6 months long program (May – November) based on AKI's philosophy of "**learning by doing**". Annually, 30 African students from Agricultural Colleges aged between 18 and 25 are accepted to work and live on a family farm in Southern Germany. The hands-on training is accompanied by hands-off intercorporate events like a German language course, an introductory course, field trips and peering sessions conducted by AKI.

Main goals are to empower young professionals ...

- to impart the ability to run their own farms efficiently and sustainably,
- to act as multipliers in their home countries,
- to build a network within Germany and Africa.

**Successful trainees receive an official certificate – recognized both in Germany and Africa – and become part of the German-African alumni network.**



## Agriculture in Southern Germany



Agriculture in Southern Germany is known for ...

- family run structures — often within one family for hundreds of years,
- up to 100+ ha of land (average 35) and field size of 1–5 ha,
- cash crops like grains (wheat, barley, rye) as well as maize and potatoes,
- specialty crops like vegetables, fruit, grapes and hops,
- milking farms with 20–100 cows (both stable and pasture),
- other livestock like pig, chicken, and cattle,
- production of electricity and other power sources with e.g. biogas plants,
- independent as well as cooperative farming structures,
- conventional and certified organic production,
- local, artisan and industrial processing supply chains.