

# Technical and vocational education and training and the labour market in development cooperation.

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Strategies 140 Unemployment and underemployment are two of the most serious development problems facing the partner countries in which German development cooperation operates. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), 186 million people worldwide are unemployed. The number of underemployed people in developing countries is estimated to be far higher – as many as 550 million. Facilitating more people's access to productive employment that pays a decent wage, thus giving them a source of income, is a key element of sustainable poverty reduction and the achievement of the Millennium Development goals. This Strategy Paper establishes programmatic directives for the formulation of Germany's official development cooperation in the core competency area of technical and vocational education and training and the labour market and in the priority areas of German development cooperation, in which technical and vocational education and training is a cross-cutting theme.

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