



March 8, 2018

International Women's Day – German development cooperation support for gender equality.

Globally every year on the 8th of March, International Women's day is commemorated to support the movement of women's right. The Agenda 2030, the new European Consensus on Development and the new German Sustainable Development Strategy underline the importance of gender equality for sustainable development. For German Development Cooperation the promotion of gender equality is not just a commitment, but a guiding principle and a quality feature of our work. On behalf of the German Government, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports Ghanaian women in various programmes.

For example in cooperation with Scania West Africa, and the Greater Accra Passenger Transport Executive (GAPTE) the developPPP.de programme implemented by GIZ launched the "Female Drivers Campaign". This initiative is to **train women to become bus drivers** to open up gender segregated industry domains to women, giving them a larger selection of possible jobs and to help even out the gender imbalance in the transport sector. Women are under-represented in the commercial transportation sector in Ghana, therefore this programme will attract more female bus drivers to even out the gender imbalance in the transport sector. Out of the over 100 shortlisted candidates, a final 60 will be chosen and trained by the vocational school Government Technical Training Centre (GTTC) in Accra, to get a bus driver's license free of charge. By the time selected candidates are graduating, they will have the opportunity to apply for a position as bus drivers for 'Aayalolo', the Bus Rapid Transport System introduced by the Ghanaian government in 2016.

Additionally, the regional program "Employment for Sustainable Development in Africa" (E4D) together with its Ghanaian partner, the Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (COTVET), entered into a public-private-partnership with KOICA (Korean International Cooperation Agency) and SAMSUNG Electronics West Africa to promote **female professionals in electronics** by supplying them with a sound technical background and capacity through practical oriented vocational training. The women are equipped with technical knowledge and skills through highly practical oriented vocational education. The training not only equips women with knowledge and skills, it also improves their communication skills as well as self-confidence in order to be able to compete in a growing market.

Currently, 30 females have graduated and 55 more will graduate in June 2018. Furthermore, 25 have secured employment with various electronics outlets in Accra. Others are for instance developing various business ideas in the sector and are currently receiving support to develop their business ideas.