

## SKILLS INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA

### OVERVIEW

The Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) is an initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) supported by the German Government and the European Union.

SIFA promotes occupational prospects of young Africans through the support

of innovative skills development programmes and close cooperation with the private sector as an integral key stakeholder in the creation of jobs. The initiative consists of two components, a Finance Facility, and a Technical Component.

The AUDA-NEPAD **Finance Facility**

provides funding to innovative employment-oriented skills development projects, following a competitive application process.

The **Technical Component** provides a continental platform for knowledge exchange and private sector engagement in skills development.

### COUNTRIES OF IMPLEMENTATION

The Finance Facility's pilot countries are Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Tunisia, South Africa, Kenya, Ethiopia, Togo

The Technical Component aims at reaching all AU member countries.



### OFFERINGS

■ The **FINANCE FACILITY** has established three Funding Windows (FW):

I

Large skills development investment projects proposed by domestic training entities in partnership with companies.

**GRANT AMOUNT PER PROJECT:**  
Up to EUR 3 MILLION

II

Skills development investment projects proposed by International private sector entities in collaboration with domestic skills training entities.

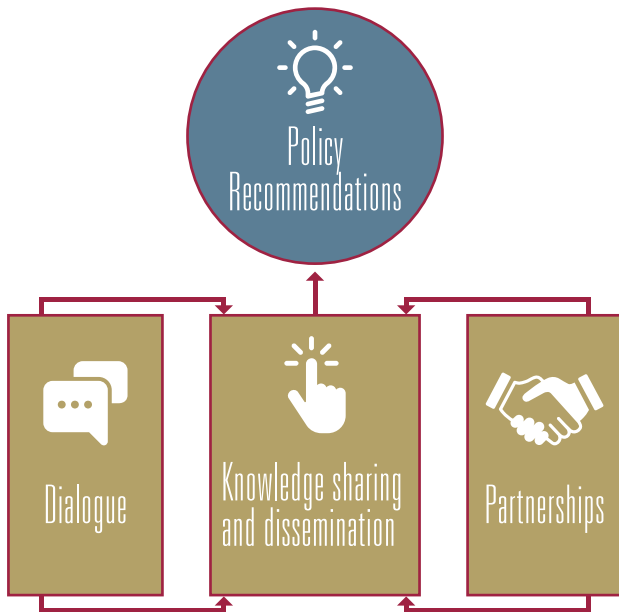
**GRANT AMOUNT PER PROJECT:**  
Between EUR 1 and 1.5 MILLION

III

Innovation skills promotion pilot projects proposed by domestic training entities in partnership with public or private companies.

**GRANT AMOUNT PER PROJECT:**  
Between EUR 0.2 and 1 MILLION

## TECHNICAL COOPERATION



### ► Dialogue

SIFA promotes dialogue events on a national, regional, and continental level with stakeholders like TVET policy makers, skills development practitioner, TVET academics and researchers, the business community, public sector, and youth.

### ► Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination

The online platform – “African Skills Portal for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship” (ASPYEE) – serves as a knowledge repository to share nationally-tryed and – tested approaches throughout the continent. SIFA promotes the establishment of Communities of Practice (CoPs), tools and approaches to enhance planning for job creation.

### ► Partnerships

SIFA initiates cooperation and partnerships between companies and training institutions to ensure demand oriented skills development and improves skills anticipation systems.

### ► Policy Recommendations

The project provides strategic orientation and recommendations for action to drive the African skills agenda based on the implementation experiences in AU member countries. Frameworks for cross border comparability of qualifications are developed.

## KEY RESULTS

### FINANCE FACILITY

**I** has already been launched in 6 of the 8 African countries: Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Togo and Tunisia. The launch in Ethiopia is scheduled in 2019.

**II** was launched in Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Tunisia in 2017. Projects have been ranked and winners announced. Due diligence is ongoing.

**III** will be launched 2019/2020.

**50 000** new students will be trained over the next 10 years

**1 000** number of registrations for applications in 6 countries

**FW\* I: 8**    **FW\* II: 9**    **FW\* III: 30**

estimated outcome: number of projects expected

(if FW III has 15 Mio EUR then the average size of a project is 500 000)

\*Funding Windows

### TECHNICAL COOPERATION



**400**

participants from all African regions

The private sector, educational institutions, international organisations, civil society, and politics attended the flagship dialogue event Africa Talks Jobs (ATJ) in 2017.



**120**

companies and associations

pledged during ATJ in 2017 to invest in skills development for African youth.

THE ASPYEE\* PORTAL HAS REACHED

**10 000**

hits



AND HAS

**30**

validated good practices from different countries.



\*African Skills Portal for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [nepad.org/skillsportalfor youth](http://nepad.org/skillsportalfor youth)

This project is co-funded by the European Union and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

