



### DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN RHINELAND-PALATINATE

With its development policy, the Rhineland-Palatinate state government wants to help fight poverty worldwide, make globalization fairer and protect the environment. In doing so, it is guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in September 2015 as a reference framework for policy in Rhineland-Palatinate. Development policy today is about more than projects and programs. It is about fundamental political, social and economic changes that must take place worldwide. It is about socially and ecologically just globalization, fair trade structures, climate and environmental protection. And it is about changes in patterns of living and consumption in Germany.

Against this backdrop, the state's development policy includes the following focal areas:

#### Sustainable procurement

Sustainable procurement helps improve the living and working conditions of many people in Africa, Asia and Latin America. For this reason, the state and municipalities in particular are also called upon to include social and ecological criteria in public tenders on a binding basis. Within the framework of our training project „Rhineland-Palatinate buys sustainably!“, which is carried out in cooperation with the development policy state network ELAN, we show municipalities how sustainable procurement is possible in a legally secure and practicable manner.

#### Municipal development policy

Municipalities are important actors in development policy. We motivate and support municipalities in their efforts to get involved with their own projects, e.g. in education work, municipal partnerships or sustainable procurement.

#### Educational work in schools

The state government would like to awaken greater understanding for the situation in other countries, but also for global interrelationships. Children and young people should learn about the effects of our actions on people in other parts of the world and be sensitized to sustainable and socially just actions.

#### Information events on development policy issues

Together with partners in Rhineland-Palatinate, we organize information and discussion events on current development policy issues and participate in conferences and presentations.

#### Cooperation with civil society

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## RHINELAND-PALATINATE

We support associations, municipalities, schools or churches in Rhineland-Palatinate that carry out development policy information and education projects in Germany or cooperate with partners in countries of the South.

### **PARTNERSHIP WITH RWANDA**

In 1982, Rhineland-Palatinate and the Republic of Rwanda sealed the first partnership between a German and an African country. From the beginning, the basic idea was to develop a so-called grassroots partnership that would be organized in a decentralized manner and close to the people. The Rwandan partners independently propose projects that seem most urgent and necessary to them. On the Rhineland-Palatinate side, the partners strive to provide financial and material support.

The primary goals of the measures are the improvement of education, the support of women and the participation in the areas of health care and nature conservation. Within the framework of the approximately 200 school partnerships, the school situation in Rwanda is sustainably improved. Personal contact between children and young people and between teachers and school administrators from Rhineland-Palatinate and Rwanda is also promoted. Vocational training is another important factor in the education of Rwandans. Only with appropriate vocational training is it possible to train qualified skilled workers, who play an enormously important role in Rwanda's economic development. Bringing people with disabilities into the partnership as important actors and thus further deepening the cooperation between Rhineland-Palatinate and Rwanda is a new focus. There are also more and more projects for renewable energy and environmental protection. Rhineland-Palatinate's business community is involved in the partnership to further promote development in Rwanda. The partnership is also becoming increasingly involved in the fields of art, culture and sports. They act as a bridge of understanding and promote cooperation with and between the partners. Through the many encounter trips in recent years, young people in particular have been able to get to know the other culture and benefit from each other: Children and young people form the basis for the future of the partnership.