

In 2016, inspired by the broad social dialogue process of the “[Charter of the Future: ONE WORLD – Our Responsibility](#)” in 2014, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development ([BMZ](#)) launched an initiative to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships as a means of achieving the [2030 Agenda](#).

Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships (MSP) represent a significant and important opportunity to foment transformative impact through collaboration in which the SDGs can flourish. They are not a mechanical project management tool. MSPs are instead “institutions that learn” and accelerate change for sustainable development through a systemic approach. This approach allows for the emergence of diversity and creativity can emerge and complement each other, and where robust process management engages multiple stakeholders and supports them in owning their collaboration process.

The new funding guidelines for “private German executing agencies” (“Private Träger”) from 2016 have this at the forefront and allow the support of civil society actors to build competencies, both in planning and in the implementation of MSPs. In this regard, [Engagement Global – bengo](#) (bengo) has worked for the last three years on behalf of BMZ to promote, advice, and accompany civil society organizations from idea generation to successful application. In order to build competences for the design and implementation of collaboration processes with multiple actors, bengo further offers capacity building through seminars and webinars for civil society actors in Germany and their partners in cooperation with the [Collective Leadership Institute](#) (CLI).



After all, MSPs are about people and thus about their possibility to shape their future in a connected and inter-dependent world. CLI’s and bengo’s entry point is SDG 17, which aims to: “*Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.*” Therefore, CLI and bengo support actors in designing and invigorating multi-stakeholder initiatives that work to achieve outcomes across all of the SDGs from local to national to global levels.



Over the last three years, bengo has advised and supported a large number of civil society organizations in the development, design, planning and implementation of MSP projects. As a result of this constructive iterative process, this bengo-CLI collaboration has supported thirteen projects in Africa, Asia, and Latin America that center around sustainability in supply chains, sustainable agricultural production systems, training of health workers, access to land, climate change, structural change in energy production and climate risk insurance. These MSPs are all at different stages of development and implementation. The first concrete results and impacts of these MSP approaches should be expected in 2019 at the earliest.

The planned projects must be self-contained, participatory, and sustainable, and should involve, in addition to concrete measures in the partner countries, capacity development for local partners and stakeholders. For MSP projects, the same conditions apply as with the funding from the “private German executing agencies” (“Private Träger”).

In its cooperation with bengo, CLI focuses its capacity development programmes to support civil society actors in Germany in the understanding, design, and planning of their MSPs.



Since the beginning of 2017, CLI has implemented two trainings with 42 civil society actors, as well as three interactive webinars that discussed the “*challenges in the*

planning and implementation of MSP”, “*different forms of collaboration*” and “*creation of effective architectures for multi-stakeholder engagement process*” in English and German.

The last training took place from 19 to 20 April, 2018 in Berlin. A fourth training and webinar is expected to take place in the second half of 2018.



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