

Presentation of our institution:

The educational center "DEULA Witzenhausen GmbH, Lehranstalt für angewandte Technik" is the Government-approved demand and customer oriented education and training institution. DEULA Witzenhausen is one of 16 training institutions that form a cornerstone of the dual training system in the agri-/horticultural sector in Germany. The German system of dual education is based on.

- a) practical in the job training of apprentices by "master-farmers" (Landwirtschaftsmeister) usually over three years, accompanied by
- b) theoretical training in vocational training schools (Berufsschule) usually one day per week over three years, and
- c) 4-5 modular 1-2-weeks practical training courses in operating and maintaining farm equipment / machinery in accordance with the Good Agricultural Practice Standards by the DEULA training centers.

DEULA Witzenhausen is thus an apprenticeship and practice-oriented school for vocational training in the fields of agriculture, horticulture, landscape gardening and associated professions.

Every year, around 2,500 young people from the Federal States of Hesse and Thuringia are trained in these occupational fields in the course of dual training courses. DEULA has developed a teaching program comprising a wide range of modules with great flexibility and well embedded in the prescribed vocational education curricula. The added value of training at DEULA is the improvement of the technical understanding, correct and professional handling of agricultural machines as well as technical equipment. DEULA is also a supplier of training and further training measures for a wide range of people from other occupational fields such as e.g. storage, logistics, processing, greenhouse technology, irrigation and water management, use of renewable energy.

DEULA Witzenhausen is part of the Federal Association of DEULA Educational Institutions, comprising the 16 German DEULA centers. DEULA maintains well established networks with the German agricultural engineering industry and cooperates with large, medium and small manufacturers of agricultural equipment. The extended network further comprises contacts to the German agricultural research community with the German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture (DITSL Witzenhausen), the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences at the University of Kassel in Witzenhausen and various other universities and research institutes. Hence, DEULA is involved in international projects with training and further education components and regularly hosts groups of foreign scholars and professionals. In Witzenhausen, DEULA maintains its own training facilities comprising metal workshops, lecture halls, test plots and a seminar hotel with 90 places. Furthermore, DEULA has developed a comprehensive quality management system according to international standards DIN EN ISO 9001 ff., HACCP and requirements from SGB III and AZAV.

- Introducing the concept of the German dual education system;
- Consulting on certification and quality management of A-TVET colleges;
- Curriculum revision and development with a focus on the wheat and beans value chains;
- Didactical and methodological advice on designing courses / modules on smart and energy efficient mechanisation in the aforementioned value chains;
- Support in the development of training materials;
- Provision of national, regional and international experts and access to expert networks;
- Hosting and training Ethiopian professionals / multipliers in our facilities;
- Exchange/provision of relevant information on vocational training, sustainable agriculture;
- Organisation of study tours in Germany to vocational training centers, agricultural equipment manufacturers, and speciality fairs relevant to mechanisation, storage, processing, and marketing in the above value chains (e.g. Agritechnica 2017, 2019, 2021, AGRA 2018 ff, BioFach 2018ff, AnugaFoodTec 2018ff).

The above fields of cooperation are preliminary; any actual cooperation will be discussed between the consortium and DEULA Witzenhausen GmbH, after prior consultation with giz, key stakeholders and other parties concerned.

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