

## GTZ's development in brief

- On 1 January 1975 the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) is founded as a federally-owned limited liability company.
- It emerges as a product of the fusion of the Federal Agency for Economic Cooperation (BfE) and the German Corporation for Technical Assistance to Developing Countries (GAWI).
- Original Managing Directors: Hansjörg Elshorst, Hans Peter Merz, Hartmut Hoepfel.
- Staff: 1,875 staff members (two thirds are seconded experts).
- Head Office: Stuttgarter Strasse in Eschborn.
- 1977: Move to new premises, Building 1, in the west of Eschborn.
- First GTZ office in a partner country: 1977 in Kenya.
- Staff in 1980: 2,120 (60 per cent seconded experts, 40 per cent head-office staff).
- 1987: Hartmut Hoepfel leaves GTZ after 12 years as Managing Director, his successor is Gerold Dieke.
- 1988: The Supervisory Board decides to introduce a new, country-based organisational Structure.
- Staff figures in 1990: almost 7,000 (60 per cent national personnel, 1,300 employees working in Eschborn, 1,550 seconded experts).
- 50th office in a partner country: project service office in Morocco in 1993.
- 1993: First Deutsches Haus (German development cooperation building) in Brasilia, Brazil.
- Brussels office opens in 1993 as a link to the European Union.
- 'Land of Magic', GTZ's children's day care centre, opens its doors in 1994.
- 1996: Managing Directors Hansjörg Elshorst and Hans Peter Merz leave the company.
- Dr Bernd Eisenblätter, a lawyer and political scientist, becomes Managing Director.
- 1997: Dr Hans-Dietrich Pallmann, also a lawyer, is appointed as one of the Managing Directors.
- The Eschborn Dialogue is held for the first time in 1998, since then it has taken place annually.
- 25th anniversary with a celebration on 10 September 1999, guest of honour Nelson Mandela.
- 1999: Gerold Dieke steps down as Managing Director and assumes his new role as District President of South Hessen.
- 2000: Wolfgang Schmitt, former Member of the German Federal Parliament, becomes Managing Director.
- EXPO 2000: GTZ advises 130 developing and emerging countries.
- GTZ-Haus Berlin at Potsdamer Platz opens its doors in 2001.
- 2002: Dr Hans-Dietrich Pallmann leaves GTZ after five years as Managing Director.
- 2003: First spotlight of the year 'Creating the future: youth as partner'.
- 2004-2006: Building 1 refurbished to ecological standards.
- Inauguration of the Bonn office next to the Federal Chancellor's second official residence in 2006.
- Staff at the end of 2008: almost 13,000 employees.
- The number of employees has almost doubled since 1990. 9,913 staff members are national personnel (more than 75 per cent).
- 2009: Dr Hans-Joachim Preuß, former Secretary General of Welthungerhilfe, completes the trio of GTZ Managing Directors.

- Wolfgang Schmitt leaves GTZ at the end of 2009. Dr Christoph Beier, who has been a member of the Committee of Executives since 2000, becomes new Managing Director on 1 January 2010.
- GTZ works within a Deutsches Haus in 56 countries, i.e. under the same roof as other German development cooperation organisations.
- In addition to Head Office in Eschborn and the offices in Berlin, Bonn and Brussels, there are 87 GTZ offices worldwide.
- In March 2010 Dr Bernd Eisenblätter is being confirmed in the new position of Chairman of the Managing Directors.
- January 2011: GTZ, DED and InWEnt merge to form the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.