



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

German Commission  
for UNESCO



## Student Training for Entrepreneurial Promotion (STEP)

Since 2009, the German Commission for UNESCO promotes education of young people in African countries in order to reduce youth employment and create new prospect for the future. In cooperation with African National Commissions for UNESCO and the Leuphana University of Lüneburg, the Student Training for Entrepreneurial Promotion (STEP) has been implemented at universities in Liberia, Kenya, Uganda, and Lesotho.

The twelve-week training equips students of higher semesters with basic knowledge to start a business and particularly focuses on strengthening their self-confidence and personal initiative. During the training, students already build small groups and start their own businesses in order to put training content directly into practice. The trainers, which are trained by experts of Leuphana University of Lüneburg in advance, professionally support the students in this process.

The German Commission for UNESCO coordinates STEP. In addition to Leuphana University of Lüneburg, which has developed the training and accompanies it from a scientific perspective, there is a close cooperation with the corresponding National Commissions for UNESCO, Ministries of Education, and further partners, for example from the private sector. The BASF Stiftung and the German Academic Exchange Service ([DAAD](#)) are two of these important partners. Together, all partners significantly contribute to the successful and sustainable implementation of STEP in the African partner countries.



## Idea and Methodological Approach

STEP was developed by experts from Leuphana University Lüneburg. In addition to teaching business skills, the training focuses on the promotion of self-confidence and personal initiative. What is unique about STEP: Students start their own real business in the course of the training. [more...](#)

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## STEP was implemented at universities in



Liberia



Kenya



Uganda



Lesotho