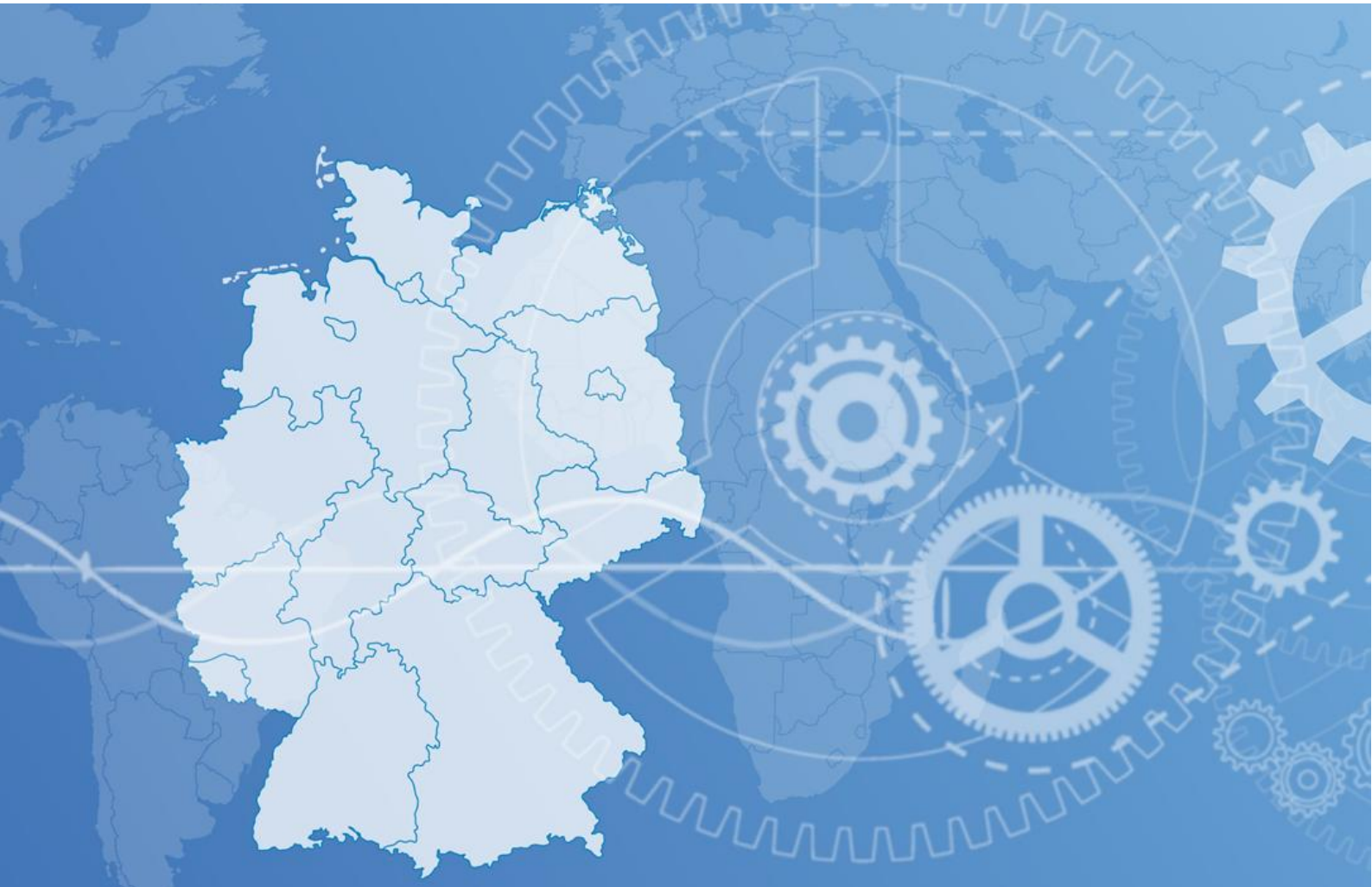
Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

Implemented by

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



AGENDA

Network Meeting of the German Government and Federal States Programme (BLP)

10 Years of German Government and Federal States Programme:

Innovation for Decentralised Development Cooperation

The German Government and Federal States Programme (BLP), commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), is a sought-after and well-established **cooperation format** for international cooperation with the German Länder and partner countries in the Global South. In 2026, it can look back on **more than 10 years** of successful project implementation. A total of 101 joint projects have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented.

On behalf of BMZ, the programme supports the **development policy activities of German federal states** with resources, methodological expertise and office and network structures for bilateral development cooperation in the partner countries. In this context, the German federal states contribute their specific competences to the bilateral development cooperation of the Federal Government through their administrative structures and various state institutions such as specialist agencies, scientific institutions, networks and the private sector. Through this approach, the programme achieves greater impact on target groups in partner countries through its cooperation projects. It is thus making an innovative contribution to achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals.

With the **network meeting** in Berlin, the German Government and Federal States Programme, together with its partners from state and senate chancelleries, state ministries and specialist institutions of the federal states, wants to look back on the results achieved over the past decade and look ahead to the future design of **innovative approaches to** decentralised development cooperation within the framework of the programme.

The network meeting enables an in-depth exchange between representatives of the German federal states, state institutions, BMZ and the GIZ programme team on the work approaches and implementation successes of the programme to date. It is intended to provide space for reflection on core development policy **issues and future priorities** of BMZ and German federal states for international cooperation.

Network meeting of the German Government and Federal States Programme

Location	Federal State Representation of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Jägerstr. 1-3, 10117 Berlin
Date	23-24 April 2026
Participants	Participants from the German federal states, partner countries, BMZ, GIZ

Thursday, 23 April 2026

Time	Agenda
12:00	**Arrival** and small buffet lunch
13:00	**Welcome** by State Councillor Liv Assmann, Plenipotentiary of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg to the Federal Government, the European Union and for Foreign Affairs
13:15	**Introduction to the agenda and presentation of the German Government and Federal States Programme** Gallery tour of selected cooperation projects
14:15	**Innovation for decentralised development cooperation** Speech by Parliamentary State Secretary Johann Saathoff, Member of the German Bundestag at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
14:30	**Group photo**
14:45	***Coffee Break***
15:15	**Decentralised development cooperation of the German federal states** Panel discussion on support for Ukraine and implementation in cooperation projects Marius Mortsiefer, State Chancellery of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia Viktoria Itskovych, Director of the Department of IT at the Kyiv City Council Anna Sturmfels, Rehabilitation Programme Ukraine, GIZ
16:15	**Exchange of experiences and lessons learned** World Café on implemented cooperation projects 1. Added value for German federal states 2. Effectiveness in partner countries 3. Proven formats 4. Factors of successful implementation
17:30–18:00	**Summary** of day 1 and outlook for the following day
Afterwards	**Transfers by bicycle rickshaws or walk to the evening program at the Museum of Communication Berlin,** Leipziger Str. 16, 10117 Berlin
18:30	**Closed party: Exclusive guided tour of the museum & official dinner together in the museum restaurant**

Friday, 24 April 2026

Time	Agenda
09:00	**Welcome** and overview Day 2
09:15	**Pressure for change on international cooperation:** **The role and future of decentralised development cooperation** Panel discussion with Thomas Rachel, Member of the German Bundestag, Member of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development Nancy Böhning, State Councillor of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen Gifty Rosetta Amo Antwi, Executive Board Member of the Federal Association of Development and Humanitarian Non-Governmental Organisations Tilman Nagel, Head of Division Germany, Europe, South Caucasus at GIZ
10:30	**Options for the further development of the German Government and Federal States Programme** Presentation of a current study
11:00	***Coffee Break***
11:30	**Continuity & Innovation: Options for the Further Development of the German Government and Federal States Programme** Joint exchange in the "World Café" format 1. Thematic focus of the programme 2. Innovative approaches (actors and cooperations, formats) 3. Cooperation between German states 4. Training and exchange formats
12:30	**Final summary** and farewell
13:00	**End of the event**
From 13:00	***Small buffet lunch***