



In Practice

CEFE WEP in Nigeria, Lafia, Nassarawa State, in collaboration with the Business Information Training Centre (BITC), a project of the German International Cooperation (GIZ) Nigeria. The theme of the Women Entrepreneurship Programme was 'equipping women with the entrepreneurial skills to enable them build sustainable and profitable businesses'. The young women were selected from diverse backgrounds and exposed to innovative entrepreneurship courses using CEFE. Every participant developed a business plan which they implement with the aid of the BITC resources. Many of the women have launched their own businesses already.



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Women Entrepreneurship Programme CEFE WEP

In Brief

The WEP is designed to equip young women with the necessary entrepreneurial skills to succeed in business. CEFE WEP provides opportunities for local economic growth and development through enterprise development. Women owned businesses can benefit from a range of advantages which the training explores: better record of loan repayment, higher integration into local economy, long term objectives instead of quick wins, more realistic planning. But women often also face gender specific barriers which CEFE WEP helps to deal with: ownership is dominated by men making collateral more difficult; family expenditures conflict with business cash flow; professions and sectors are male dominated; self-organisation in associations is barely developed to enable public private dialogue. Finally, CEFE WEB opens more equal perspectives for self-paced income generation.

CEFE WEB can also be integrated into vocational training curricula or elements of it be used for employability training.

Deliverables

The WEP helps develop the leadership potentials of participants and positions them to become profitable businesswomen. The programme aims to achieve the following: Enhance the ability of participants to communicate more effectively; Enable them to maximise their socio-economic potentials; Transform them into agents of positive change in their respective societies; Expose sources of funding for budding entrepreneurs; Empower women to start and manage businesses using their specific strengths and combating distinctive weaknesses or threats.

Instruments

The Programme uses CEFE exercises, presentations, take home assignments and fieldwork to expose the young women to practical concepts of entrepreneurship.

Actual WEP standalone course – 2 weeks
Entire WEP process management, incl.
coaching during implementation: ~ 6 months
Training of WEP facilitators: several HCD steps
during 6 months; should be integrated into
WEP process management (above).