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**PROJECT UPDATE: Consulting services for Skill Development for Employment; Job Readiness Program; and Institutional Support to the Ministry of Youths and Sports (MoYS) Youth Entrepreneurship and Employment Project (YEEP)
Period: March 2018 – December 2018**

Client: Ministry of Youths and Sports
Project value: 1.152.542 USD
Funding: African Development Bank

Duration: January 2018 – July 2020
Lead firm: Cadena
Partner: IBF International Consulting



The YEEP project in Liberia, funded by the African Development Bank, consists of four different interrelated components, to mention (1) skills development for employment, (2) job readiness program, (3) entrepreneurship development (4) and institutional support to MoYS to ensure quality control, monitoring and evaluation, sustainability of the project, as well as the possibility to further up-scale the project initiatives. Cadena is responsible for the implementation of component 1, 2 and 4.





Since the project started in March 2018, the following has been achieved:

- The inception phase has been completed and suggested changes to the design have been taken into account during the implementation of the project.
- A Skills Needs Assessment has been completed. The assessment has outlined the priority areas for the program e.g. the courses that will be supported by Cadena at Booker Washington Institute (BWI) are poultry, hospitality and catering, and plumbing.
- The occupational profiles, occupational standards, curricula and teaching and learning materials have been designed for the three courses, using the DACUM method and working closely with teachers, expert workers and the MoYS. All materials are ready for use by teachers at the Booker Washington Institute.
- The internships and on-the-job training for both the Booker Washington Institute and University of Liberia have been planned. The first cohorts of UL students have been identified and trained in job-readiness.
- For the job readiness and career guidance – the assessment report has been submitted and approved. The findings will be considered during the implementation of the project.
- The training and operational manuals for job-readiness services are also completed. The manuals will be used by the University of Liberia in the process of providing career guidance and job-readiness services.
- For the secondary school pilot for the off-campus program, three schools have been selected and identified. At a later stage these will receive support to prepare senior secondary school students in readiness for university and choice of subjects of study
- The Monitoring Evaluation & Learning Framework has been designed and validated in workshops and is currently operational. MoYS staff has received ME&L training, which prepared them to use the ME&L Framework.
- An communication strategy, with the objective to raise public awareness about skills development programs through vocational training to improve youth employability, has been developed and is currently operational, radio spots are broadcasted and bill boards are designed.
- The Education Management Information System (EMIS) is finished and available for final installation and practical use by the Ministry of Youth and Sports
- The capacity building program for the MoYS is currently ongoing, so far they have been trained in ME&L, curriculum development, and alike.

During the next year (2019) the Cadena team will focus from design of the programs to actual implementation of the programs, as such amongst others, the following activities are foreseen:

- Train-the-trainers program to support BWI teachers with the implementation of CBET
- BWI School management training to improve service delivery
- Internships and on-the-job training for BWI students
- Internships and on-the-job training for University of Liberia students
- Provision of job-readiness services to 2.400 University of Liberia students
- Work experience program for UL students
- Support secondary schools pilots for off-campus program
- Tracer surveys
- Continuous capacity building for MoYS
- Model for scaling up and sustaining Liberia YEPP

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