Information and details on the methodology and the recommendations of the study “Social Enterprises as Job Creators in Africa – The Potential of Social Enterprise to Provide Employment Opportunities in 12 African Countries 2020-2030”

Where development players can support social enterprises (SEs) in Africa the most:

Financial Support
- Increase the amount and adapt the allocation of funding to SEs’ needs
- Launch challenges and competitions to pilot new business lines
- Financially support SEs in recruiting and retaining employees

Technical Support
- Support SEs in strengthening their product/market fit
- Improvement of operational efficiency and Human Resources Management

Improvements to the enabling environment
- Promote preferential treatment of SEs in public procurement tenders
- Strengthen the position of SEs
- Promote the creation of HR pools that fit SEs’ needs

Improvements to moderate data availability
- Standardize research and definition of SE
- Deepen research on factors affecting the job creation potential and the quality of jobs in SEs

To meet the demands of these challenges, the international development ecosystem is urged to take action. In order for SEs to realize their full growth potential, it is imperative that these recommendations are used as a guide by players in the ecosystem. A comprehensive set of 30 selected recommendations can be highlighted due to their expected high impact on SEs’ job creation potential. The suggested interventions are clustered in financial and technical support, the improvement to enabling environment and moderate data availability.

About the Study – Methodology

The methodology is based on the correlation of SE growth and job creation as a basic assumption, the design of a generic growth model and the definition of prerequisites of growth, and development of a set of recommended support interventions.

Given the lack of robust quantitative data about the prevalence of SEs and their job creation potential, the authors developed a multi-step iterative approach. On a macro-level, country profiles of 12 focus countries all over the African continent have been included: Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tunisia, Uganda, and South Africa. Eight are compact-with-Africa countries and four countries were selected by Siemens Stiftung due to its own operational focus. In the chosen countries, an analysis for each country’s SE prevalence and support environment was done.

On a micro-level, a deep dive followed in the form of case studies of five SEs, three of which are part of Siemens Stiftung’s empowering people. Network. The five SEs that have been analyzed in case studies include: MeshPower (Rwanda), Sesi Technologies (Ghana), Tebita Ambulance Prehospital Emergency Medical Services (Ethiopia), TakaTaka Solutions (Kenya), and WASHKing (Ghana). Together, the case studies belong to the database of the study, ‘Social Enterprises as Job Creators in Africa – The Potential of Social Enterprise to Provide Employment Opportunities in 12 African Countries 2020-2030’, which has been
published as a three-part report: the Main Report, Country Profiles, and Case Studies. All results and recommendations went through a validation process by experts coming from the international development sector.