

CoffeeVoices – Call for Applications

Development Policy Exchange Programme in the Coffee Sector

Imagine this: A roaster from Germany and a coffee farmer from Tanzania produce a short film together – about the work, the challenges, the reality and the people behind every cup of coffee. A few months later, both stand together in front of an audience in Germany and present their results. Direct encounter instead of an abstract supply chain.

That is exactly what **CoffeeVoices** is: five young people each from the German and Tanzanian coffee sectors form tandems, produce short documentary videos about the reality of coffee production, and bring these stories to Germany in person – to build stronger awareness of sustainable coffee consumption.

Funding: The programme is funded under Teams Up! – the programme line of the German-African Youth Initiative (DAJW) by Engagement Global with funds from the BMZ, and is implemented by the Schorlemer Stiftung of the DBV e.V.

Planned project period: September 2026 – July 2027

Focus: SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

What awaits participants from the coffee sector?

Who can apply?

Young people (18–30 years) with a professional or academic connection to the coffee sector – employees, trainees, baristas, roasters, or students with a focus on coffee or sustainability. English skills for communication are required (no academic level needed).

Programme timeline:

1. Preparation phase (September 2026 – mid-October): digital workshops on storytelling, video production, and intercultural communication. Formation of the German-Tanzanian tandems. Average time commitment of 1–3 hrs/week, adapted to participants' availability.
2. First encounter in Tanzania (mid-October 2026, 16 days): seminars, excursions along the coffee value chain, short-term internship on coffee farms, filming of the documentary videos.
3. Interim phase (November 2026–March 2027): digital follow-up and material editing, preparation of the educational events in Germany.
4. Return encounter in Germany (early April 2027, 16 days): seminars, work placements for the Tanzanian participants at German coffee businesses, joint presentation of the documentary videos as part of self-organised public events.
5. Follow-up (until end of July 2027): evaluation and alumni networking.

What is expected of participants?

Binding participation in all phases, including digital preparation, willingness to spend 16 days each in Tanzania and Germany, openness to intercultural collaboration and critical engagement with global supply chains, as well as active involvement in shaping the programme.

The one-time programme fee is **€500.00**.



Tandem from the predecessor project CoffeeXchange

What do participants receive?

All travel, accommodation, and catering costs are covered by programme funding. In addition, participants receive professional training in storytelling and video production, intercultural skills development, insights into Tanzanian coffee production from farm to cup, access to a growing network in the coffee sector, and a certificate of participation.

Apply now!

Please submit the following application documents in English or with an English translation:

- CV / resume
- Letter of motivation
- Proof of education/training
- Relevant (work) references

After a pre-selection of applications, we will invite you to a joint digital selection seminar in early September. This is where the final decision is made on who will be accepted into the programme.

If you're interested but unable to make it to the planned encounter trips, please get in touch with us anyway! If the majority of interested participants prefer different dates, we may still be able to adjust the schedule accordingly.

Application deadline: 31.08.2026

How can German coffee businesses support the programme?

Time off: Participating full-time employees need a total of approx. 24 working days of leave (12 working days for each of the two encounters), spread over 12 months. During the preparation and interim phases, occasional digital events take place, which are adapted to participants' working hours.

Application: Interested employees apply to the programme independently. The employer supports the application and ensures the necessary time off is granted. The final selection is made by the Schorlemer Stiftung.

No financial costs: All programme, travel, and accommodation costs are covered in full by programme funding.

What's in it for your business?

- **Employee development:** Your employees gain a deep understanding of production conditions and supply chain realities in the country of origin – knowledge that can feed directly into their daily work.
- **Placement at your business:** During the return encounter, Tanzanian coffee producers do a placement at your business – a unique professional exchange at eye level.
- **Visibility and PR:** At the public educational events, your own coffee varieties from the partner country can be presented and tasted alongside the "project coffee". The videos and photos produced in the programme are available for your customer communications.
- **Long-term partnerships:** CoffeeVoices can be the starting point for lasting relationships between your business and Tanzanian producers.

Interested or still have questions? Get in touch!

Johannes Leberer

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Excursion during CoffeeXchange in Uganda, August 2025

Further information about Teams Up!

<https://www.deutsch-afrikanisches-jugendwerk.de>