



GERMAN
ENTREPRENEUR-
SHIP AWARD
FOR DEVELOPMENT
2017

Zwick Roell AG and GreenTec Capital GmbH receive the German Entrepreneurship Award for Development

Nairobi, Kenya, 9 February. The German Entrepreneurship Award for Development 2017 was conferred at the German-African Business Summit in Nairobi on 9 February. Gerd Müller, Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, presented the award in recognition of special entrepreneurial commitment in developing countries and emerging economies.

Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft e.V. co-present the German Entrepreneurship Award for Development in two categories: The winner in Category A, 'Business for Development' (with a prize of EUR 35,000) is the German mechanical engineering company Zwick Roell AG, which was singled out for its entrepreneurial engagement in India. Every year, the company's own on-site academy trains twelve young people from poor and marginalised backgrounds to become testing machine operators. For the benefit of its trainees, Zwick Roell plans to channel the prize money into its teaching programme, training academy and instructors.

In Category B, 'Innovation for Development', the award and a EUR 25,000 prize went to the Eschborn-based GreenTec Capital Partners GmbH. With an approach customised to the needs of developing countries, the investment consulting company from the German federal state of Hesse assists African startups to build up strong and sustainable companies by giving them access to capital and know-how. GreenTec's approach has already led to the creation of 1,500 jobs throughout the population and to clean energy for some 40,000 people. GreenTec intends to use the prize money for further investments next year.

This is the second time the German Entrepreneurship Award for Development has been presented. Its purpose is to raise public awareness of special entrepreneurial commitment by German and European companies. The prize money is directed back into the award-winning projects and product ideas where it boosts the companies' development activities

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GreenTec Capital has designed an innovative concept for backing African startups that not only aspire to business success but to social and ecological sustainability, too. In just under two years, GreenTec has established a portfolio of ten sustainable companies which, amongst other things, have helped create more than 1,500 jobs and provide access to renewable energy for some 40,000 people.

Zwick Roell is the world's leading supplier of machines for materials testing. Its products are used for R&D and quality assurance in more than 20 sectors. In figures, that translates into EUR 236 million in orders received in fiscal 2015. The Zwick Roell Group has more than 1,300 employees and operates production plants in Germany, Europe and China.



Persons in the picture:
Jochen Voß, Chairman of the Board Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft e.V.;
Thomas Festerling, CFO GreenTec Capital GmbH;
Dr. Gerd Müller, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development;
Sandra Duong, Projectmanager Zwick Roell AG;
Dr. Jan Stefan Roell, Vorstandsvorsitzender Zwick Roell AG;
Erick Yong, CEO GreenTec Capital GmbH.

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You can find out more about the German Entrepreneurship Award for Development 2017 at www.deutscher-unternehmerpreis.de.

Contact

German Entrepreneurship Award for Development

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