

APOCOACH

Company Portfolio



CONTACT

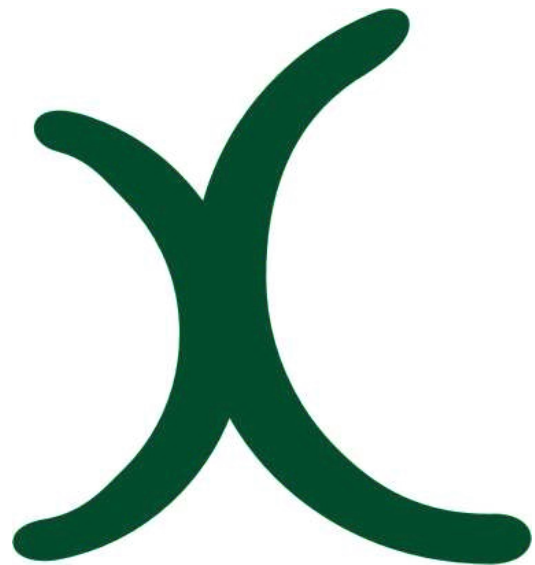
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General Background and Overview of Firm

APO-COACH GbR

APO-COACH GbR has been a partnership under the German Civil Code since 2000 and is mainly focussed on sustainable development issues at home and abroad.

Connected to and beyond ICT our fields of activity embrace e-governance, education, TVET, information systems, and labour market. We have experience in working with several international development organisations with an emphasis on collaboration, quality, and open-source solutions.

As a small business, we make a point of good relationship and effectiveness. As a company of two experts, we believe in quality and always provide assistance for one another, as a gratuitous service without charging the customer an extra fee.

We establish and maintain client relations based on confidence and trust, where the main characteristics are discretion, availability, empathy, changing perspectives, reliability, quick response, and space for meeting. Accordingly we appreciate and plan client and stakeholder participation, cooperative methods and actively maintain contacts. As a rule our working attitude is effect-oriented.

In any event our communication with the client is open, clear and comprehensive, such as sending questionnaires in advance in order to prepare interviews. We are interested, and make appropriate use of the written word, are attentive to disruptions, and flexible. We take into account diverse interests and select significant information for decision-making in a concise and understandable manner.

We also respect institutional potentials, interests, and understand resistance to changes, thus we make use of transparent processes and transfer of knowledge.

We prepare reports and manuals with simple and easy to read layout, summaries in text, graphics, and tables that make results visible.

Continuous and institutionalised team and self-reflections ensure that our resolutions determine the working and communication processes.

We are strongly committed to the idea of lifelong learning, thus we love to teach in trainings and workshops. We continuously study and take courses ourselves to extend our knowledge.

Last but not least, we work according to internationally recognised standards and approaches.

Philosophy

Use what fits best

We have experience in using different tools and methods in project planning and management. But we do not believe in a certain methodology. Rather, we take what fits the context best.

Open Source

Using Open-Source Software is not only a strategic decision (independence from supplier restrictions, quick response to security issues, flexible operation, dynamic developer teams).

Also monetary consideration plays a decisive role (saving of expenses when using free of cost licenses, free updates and patches).

Last but not least Open-Source is a social determination (liberal license policy, high value and free accessible documentations, prompt and free support by the "Open-Source-Community").

These are convincing arguments not only, but above all for developing countries.

Sustainability

Sustainable development for us is more than idle talk used as an empty phrase in projects. Using the term in an excessive and inapt way indeed spreads the word, but at the same time it dilutes meaning and concept.

Sustainability is more than sole technical longevity: Bearing solutions, in means of economic, social and ecological persistence, presume sensible planning and participation of stakeholders, and having in mind resilience analysis and strategies.

Digital Principles

We endorse the [Principles for Digital Development](#).

Concepts

Monitored Responsibility (MoRe)

Our action framework "Monitored Responsibility" provides safety for projects, and free-hand plus own responsibility for partners. We perceive ourselves as supplier of a reliable foundation; individualized, taking into account the interests, shortcomings and abilities, we solely offer what is necessary and support the partner in realisation. Thus knowledge is spread transparently and stays with the project.

Working Process Oriented Training

Being more than just training on the job, working process oriented training reflects learning situations, and actively steadies knowledge and capability.

Areas of Work

Project Planning, Management, Evaluation

- Design Thinking
- SCRUM
- Balanced Scorecards
- Theory of Change
- World Bank Project Life Cycle (Logic Model, WBS)
- EC/EU: PCM Principles (Logical Framework Approach, Identification or Project Fiche)
- GIZ: Capacity Works
- Monitoring and Evaluation (DAC)
- Sustainability Appraisal

Information Systems, E-Government

- Needs and Feasibility Assessment
- Success Factors, Organisational Preconditions, Risk Analysis and Mitigation
- Data Mining and Analysis, Reporting
- Data Quality, Data Harmonisation
- Technical and Requirements Specification
- Planning, Design (Database and Application, Workflow, Data Flow), and Implementation
- International Data and Indicator Standards (ILO and UN)
- Data Privacy and Protection (Collection, Processing, Reporting)
- Data Security and Recovery
- E-Governance
- Open Source Solutions

Education, TVET, and Labour Market

- Working Process Oriented Training, Training on the Job
- Lifelong Learning, Competence Based Learning and Education
- GAP for ESD
- Skills Analysis (Supply and Demand)
- Development and Assessment of TVET Curricula, Syllabi, and Exams
- Training of TVET Trainers and Instructors
- Certification (Persons) and Accreditation (Educational Institutions)
- Labour Market Data, Statistics, and Indicators (UN and ILO Specifications)

Sustainability

- Sustainable Development Implementation
- Economic and Social Sustainability and Resilience
- Resilience in Socio-Ecological Systems
- Operationalisation and Indicators
- Aid Effectiveness (Paris Declaration to Global Partnership)
- Agenda 21 Activities (Participation and Dissemination)
- 2030 Agenda (SDG)

Tendering (e.g. WB, KfW, Implementing Organisations)

- Compilation of Bidding Documents (single and two stage)
- Evaluation of Bids
- Reporting

Founders and Co-Partners

Mike Finsch, Co-Partner, Founder

As a co-founder and co-partner of APO-COACH GbR, Mike is focussed on information technology. Being a degreed Information and Communication Management Scientist he has many years of experience in information systems, monitoring and evaluation, and assessment, also against the Sustainable Development Goals, and quality assurance as well as indicator development. He is also well versed in planning data systems which includes all steps of data handling: initial analysis, collection, cleansing, vertical and horizontal integration, processing, statistical analysis, and dissemination/reporting.

In these fields Mike puts an emphasis on the cross-cutting issues information sharing, accessibility, system design, document management and archiving, data security, and data privacy.

Mike has extensive experience doing fact-finding, inception and needs assessment, and feasibility studies and reports.

He is skilled in working with a wide variety of stakeholders also in a low-budget environment and under time pressure.

Mike has worked several years overseas, in West, Southern and East Africa and Central Asia.

Gabriele (Jele) Oppermann, Co-Partner, Founder

As a Certified Information Technology Officer and co-partner of APO-COACH GbR, Jele's main fields of activity are analysis and planning, desk and field research, evaluation, and reporting.

Jele holds a master degree in “Sustainable Development Cooperation”, and her main focus is on social and economic sustainability and resilience which includes capacity building and lifelong learning.

In her role as a database specialist she has vast experience in designing and developing information systems.

Jele has worked several years in West, Southern and East Africa and Central Asia.