

Unity in Diversity: Living, learning and working in a multilateral society

Using the example of the project
„Werkstatt West“
in Parchim /Germany



You should be engaged in great problems while they are small.

„Garage West“ makes a difference for children and youth

- a place for trying, testing and learning basic skills in metallworking, to get a taste of metal occupations, manufacturing of micro parts and repairing bikes
- Integration, promotion of successive transition from school to working life, inclusion of parents in a variegated way
- with lots of room for technical know-how (currently there are 6 fully equipped places of work)
- promotion by networking (staff members of the garage are working with a lot of partners, e. g. police)
- for all, who is interested in – as well as girls!– open Monday to Friday from 14:00 to 18:00

Initial situation and changes

2006: specific situation in the quarter of Parchim “Weststadt”

- Parchim – a town to the north of Germany with about 18.400 inhabitants in a rural district with all in all 95.000 inhabitants
- thereof about 1300 people with migration background
- thereof approximately 42 % in the age between 10 and 30 years and concentration in „Weststadt“ – deprived area of Parchim with focus on especially repatriates of German origin

Consequence

- 2007 – 2009 promotion by BOSCH-foundation of local initiatives for occupational integration of young repatriates
- limited objectives: exclusive boys, only bicycle-repairing, only repatriates, exclusive 12 – 17 years, only 8 participants, 1 person in charge
- locality: small garage at a car-service area

2009 – conclusion: there is a larger demand and a wider target group – so the garage west moved to a larger room in the inner city and got an additional coach

- since September 2009: promotion by Federal Ministry/Federal Office of Migration/Der Paritätische (equal welfare association)
- focus on integration in the quarter of town

Concept

- minimum 20 young persons of the 7. – 10. forms
- in their spare time in a metalworking garage in natural ambience
- social, cultural and occupational orientation, inputs for thinking on their own, motivation and activation by feeling of success
- girls and boys get to know regardless of their origin and their age in a practical, common way different occupations of metalworking
- fields of activity:
 - *Management of the garage* (instruction of use for workshop, repairing bikes, extraction of spare parts of scrap cars, help for self-help, public relations)
 - *the garage as an open „hangout“* (development of cross-generational offers, „swap meet“, „cultural oasis“, information and helpdesk about learning opportunities especially for migrants)
 - *help for self-help* (preparation and realisation of work camps about the educational system in Germany and democracy, study trips and factory tours (metalworking plants), assistance with acquisition of traineeships and holiday jobs)
 - Teamwork – advancement of appreciation of democracy and character building
- but still focus on children/young persons with migration background

Objectives of the project

The young persons should be motivated to take on responsibility for themselves and to arrange their own life. Advancing their competences (independent of gender, origin) they learn a lot about chances in society.

cognitive educational objectives	emotional educational objectives	Objectives of behaviour
improvement of empowered occupational skills	Improvement of self-evaluation: sense of self/ body perception/ self-criticism/ emotional balance/ ambiguity tolerance/ goal setting	Improvement of manner: poise/ self-control/ friendliness/ politeness/ rhetoric/ nonverbal communication

- ⇒ social integration of participants
- ⇒ improvement of their self-contained learning competence
- ⇒ lasting integration in regional fields of occupation
- ⇒ credit of the welfare system for coming future
- ⇒ sensitization of companies for migrant problems
- ⇒ improvement of the neighbourhood in “Weststadt” and identification with the quarter – activation and consolidation of local stakeholders

Staff members 2011



Detlef Neupauer
Head of the garage
foreman



Alexander Bauer
Co-worker
carer

Private lessons

2009

- call of Deutschen Bank „Help for helpers“
- thanks to this financial aid there was bought work equipment for private lessons which is used regularly since **2010**

background

- Staff noticed especially lack of theoretical basics particular in mathematics, physics and technical drawing
- at the garage opens up the chance to impart knowledge in a different way to school
- foreman and participants are related, they developed a mutual trust
- there is a strong connection between theory and practice at the garage

goal

- additional impart of subjects taught concerning the aspect of practical work (private lessons as leisure time facilities)

sustainability

- the educational level can be advanced in particular domains
- conditions for positive development of learning are rising and so successive transition in vocational education

Community work

since **2010** there is room at the garage for delinquent youngsters – in cooperation with juvenile court representatives – for completion of community service hours

period	Number of young persons	Hours have to work (target hours)	actual achieved hours(until 06.09.2011)	Average per participant
2010	9	1180	1151	131,11
2011	10	582	265,5	58,20
total	19	1762	1416,5	94,66

- delinquent kids - as German as not German origin – are integrated in working processes
 - chance, to practice expedient activity and
 - with help of experts to do something for their occupational future in metalworking
- additional we want to get hold of those who “wasn't catch” of the “clique”

Realisation of project aims

the aims are noticeable realised by now – affirmative feedback is rising

schools

- presentations at open days, at parent-teacher-conferences
- road safety
- project days for schools at the garage

road safety

- at several occasions
- always in cooperation with “Verkehrswacht” (non-profit association for road safety education) and police

parents

- in the beginning – muted interest
- information by conversation and parent-teacher-conferences
- especially Russian - German round table talks
- now there is important more interest, but we want even more

networking

- from the very first very intensive
- partners e. g. Car service, Housing society, City Parchim, Rural district of Parchim, Prevention Service of the country, jobcenter, schools, youth welfare service, migration service

private lessons

- supported by Deutsche Bank

community work

- cooperation with youth welfare service

public relations

- family parties, sports meetings, press work, presentations in TV (regional programs)

progress in the quarter

- statements of juvenile court representatives and consultants of Prevention Service affirm the decrease of crime in “Weststadt” in recent years

Who stops getting better, stopped to be good.

(Philip Rosenthal, entrepreneur, 1916 - 2001)

Integration of young migrant persons by “Werkstatt West” in society

Integration by concerted action of young persons of any kind of origin and gender

2006

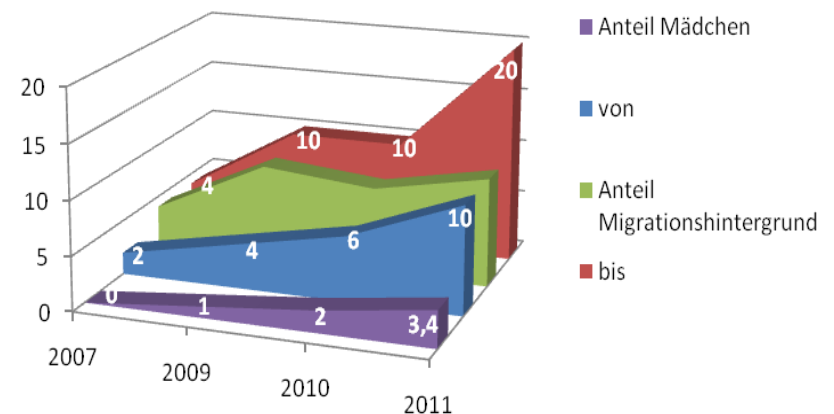
2007

2009

2011

- at the beginning „Werkstatt West“ had a low level of familiarity
- the content was in line with a small number of participants
- 2008 the content was more adapted to the needs of the local environment
 - so “Werkstatt West” more complied with the interests of the kids
 - at the same time public relations started getting effect

durchschnittliche Besucherzahl pro Tag



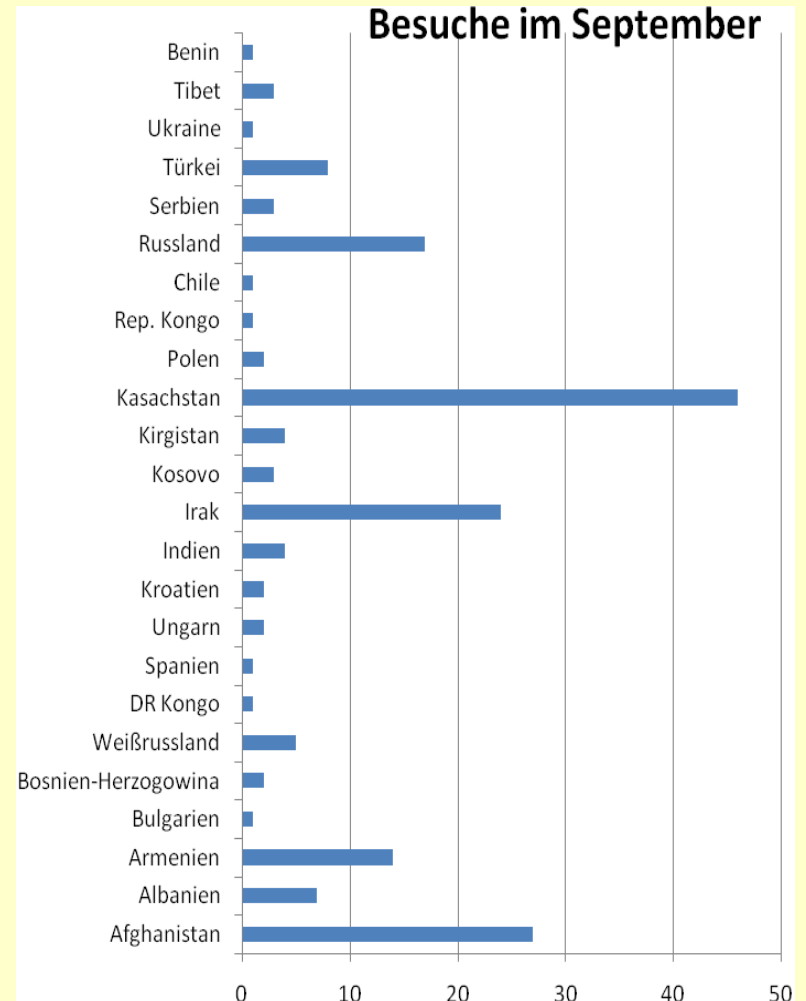
Statistic

so contingent of young persons with and without migrant background changed

the contingent of girls rose from 0 to 17 per cent at present

by now we have children and youths from 24 nations in “Werkstatt West”, on top days up to 40 persons!

the diagram shows the frequency of attendances according to nations (except the German) in September 2011



Visions

- We want more:
- A „hangout“ center like a technical club, that is open not only for kids of the quarter “Weststadt”, but also for the town of Parchim and neighbourhood, that is open for girls and boys, for all nations, without age-restriction
- therefore extensions for woodworking, an electric area, room for projects to deal with alternative energy, music stereos etc.
- to deepen the cooperation with our network partners
- to arrange occupational orientation
- to include the outdoor area – maintenance and use
- to coach study groups of the schools
- wider opening hours ⇨ until 20:00
- We need more staff

Impressions

