

SOCIAL INCLUSION – OUT OF THE BOX

NGO INFORMATION

(In Spanish Below)

Organisation name: HoT Sinzig – House der offenen Tür (House of the open doors)

Country: Germany

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Logo of organization

NGO Short description

HoT Sinzig is an open youth centre in Germany working on inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities. Working in partnership with the local schools, city hall, unemployment, family, welfare and justice ministeriums, HoT has a team of social workers specialized in group and case work with all youth at risk in the region.

Field of work (which are the main domains your organizations works on):

Haus der offenen Tür is a house built on four main pillars that represent the key fields of work:

- Case work with youth with fewer opportunities
- Open youth work at HoT
- Social work at schools
- International youth work

How do you work with youth? (methodology used and examples of activities)

Haus der offenen Tür uses non formal and experiential learning methods since its beginning. We aim for an approach that brings the young person in the middle of the development process and all actions are done according to youth needs and interests.

One example are the different youth led workshops organized in the house. We encourage youth to share what they can do and empower themselves through teaching and empowering others. Youth at HoT give arts, dance, cooking, drawing, music, chess and role playing workshops.

Another international example is the first youth exchange that HoT organized in 2012, life is creation, a youth exchange where 60 young people from 13 different countries learnt about entrepreneurship, made a shop in the local market where they sold their creations and their talents and organized a conference with stakeholders from policy level, entrepreneurship, business and education to tackle the topic of youth entrepreneurship.

Structure of organization:

HoT has a team of five workers and

Number of workers in organization:

5 permanent employees

Number of volunteers in organization:

2 national programme volunteers

2 EVS volunteers

Endless number of short term volunteers from schools, university and unemployment office.

Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX

What is the project Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX for your organization? (in one sentence)

Social Inclusion – Out of the Box is for HoT an opportunity to build strong connections with active and powerful organizations working in the same field with similar objectives.

SIOB is also a way to put on paper the methods that we are currently using and build new materials to support our local youth in the future.

What you/your organisation expect to learn/gain in this project?

We expect to boost our motivation and refill our bucket of ideas, being inspired by all the partner organizations and our shared creations.

Current situation regarding Inclusion in your country

a) which is the understanding/definition of Inclusion in your environment (social and political)?

Social Inclusion is a need to reach equality in society. In Germany this is a big discussion topic since the end of WWII and is always in debate because of the organic changes of society and the needs of the citizens.

There is a good percentage of German citizens that are committed to social issues and equality while there is also a percentage of citizens who don't care and a small community of racists and right wing extremists who have learn to make noise against those who they believe as different.

b) who are in your country included and excluded youth?

Germany is going through a slightly different situation in the World, Europe and the European Union. Statistics show a better situation for youth in terms of unemployment, happiness and well being. Still, there is an excluded part of society these statistics tend to forget. Youth is a period of time during which people can feel more lost than they are, having problems with family, relationships and decisions that end up in problems with drugs, violence or apathy towards daily routine and life.

Migrant groups and youth from migrant background are excluded in more situations, and now we are again facing a discrimination problem with asylum seekers.

c) which are the social groups that have a stronger need for Inclusion in your area? Why are

them in this situation?

We work with youth with all sort of problems.

A big problem in our area are drugs, being Rheinland Pfalz the region of Germany bordering Netherlands, Luxembourg and Belgium, this is the entry point for many drugs, being easier to get here and also easier for youth to use them. This also means more police control and more problems for youth who use them.

We work in collaboration with unemployment office and justice ministerium, supporting youth who have problems in these institutions and need stronger support for their inclusion back to society.

d) What is done for social inclusion in your country?

The national, regional and local governments have different strategies and programs to support social inclusion of diverse target groups. This support is ok, although in most cases is focused on statistic results and not cases and specific results.