



re:connaissances

*Laboratory for the recognition of competences
gained through youth exchange and volunteer
work in youth organisations*

**27-28
October 2011
Biel/Bienne
BrainStore**

*Key take-aways
from the conference*

***The most
promising
ideas***

All the ideas in this booklet were developed at the re:connaissances open space conference, held on 27th and 28th October, 2011 in Biel, Switzerland.

re:connaissances is a project created by SAJV and Intermundo



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Make the Sozialzeitausweis (SZA) more visible to the professional environment and to the volunteers

Idea

- Participate in the SZA working group
- Initialize a networking event with a godfather/godmother
- Motivate volunteers to use the SZA

Next steps

Participate in the SZA working group

- make it easier for small NGO's to write a SZA in english
- make SZA compatible internationally --> link it with youth pass
- connect SZA to reference letter enterprises use
- mutual links on websites
- write „use cases“
- list of arguments

Initialize a networking event with a godfather/godmother

- establishing brand (also allow enterprises to put their brand name on the website)
- finding a political or economical personality as godmother/godfather
- prize/certification for volunteer-friendly enterprises

Motivate volunteers to use the SZA

- show positive examples
- create a standardized presentation tool
- use new/social media

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“WE ARE ABLE TO...”

Idea

The idea to boost the recognition of skills which gained through volunteering is **to establish a charity club** to help disabled people in our local community.

Project ideas to establish a charity club involving voluntary members:

- to **help** disabled people
- to increase **awareness** within society
- to participate in **events** for disabled people
- opening gates for **social inclusion** of disabled people

Next steps

- searching for volunteers (students, experts, school managers, teachers, family members, we look for people who were once volunteers)
- forming the project team
- sharing responsibilities according to their skills
- involving social media/networking to promote the club

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Volunteer action day

Idea

Ziel: Anerkennung von Freiwilligenarbeit schaffen, durch eine Kampagne mit zwei Zielen:

- 1) Freiwillige, die sich ihrer Kompetenzen und dem Wert ihrer Arbeit bewusst sind, wirken als Multiplikatoren.
- 2) Das Ausmass und die Vielfalt der Freiwilligenarbeit werden in der Gesellschaft sichtbar gemacht.

Am 5. Dezember 2013 werden alle Freiwilligen eingeladen, ein Kennzeichen zu tragen (z.B. Eine Schleife, etwas Niederschwelliges, das alle tragen können).

Fokus und gemeinsame Botschaft des Tages: Freiwillige drücken aus, was sie in ihrer Tätigkeit gelernt haben und welchen Wert diese hat. Begleitet wird der Tag von verschiedenen Aktionen:

- Medienarbeit (Radio, TV-Spot „Wo bist du freiwillig?“, bekannte Persönlichkeiten als Botschafter/Schirmherren)
- local action projects, die von Freiwilligen/Multiplikatoren geplant wurden: z.B. Flashmob, Aufräumaktion, Facebook-Status-Aktion, etc.
- Versand von „Freiwilligen-Lebensläufen“ auf offene Stellen oder Personalabteilungen (mit Begleitbrief oder Link zur Aufklärung über die Aktion)

Next steps

- 1) Bedarf und Interesse zur Mitarbeit bei den Freiwilligenorganisationen klären und ein Organisationskomitee/Taskforce (die Lage ist ernst!) bilden.
- 2) Organisation von Schulungen für Freiwillige als MultiplikatorInnen (Inhalt: 1. Teil: Kompetenzenbilanz/Bewerbungstraining/ Freiwilligen-Lebenslauf schreiben. 2. Teil: Open space zur Entwicklung von Kampagnenaktionen für den Volunteer action day). Die Schulungen werden mit gemischten Gruppen von Freiwilligen aus verschiedenen Organisationen durchgeführt.
- 3) Öffentlichkeitsarbeit:
 1. Medienarbeit (social media, Radio, TV-Spot, Presse (begleitet CV-Aktion).
 2. Verteilung der Schleifen (über Verbände und Stände am Aktionstag und gegebenenfalls Druckvorlagen).
 3. CV-Versandaktion vorbereiten.
- 4) DER Tag
- 5) Follow-up und Auswertung

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HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE TO SELF REFLECT

Idea

Create a guideline (set of questions) for young people to make them aware of their skills through a research project.

There are different evaluation tools (Youth Pass for example) around. But we think that we first need to develop the skill to self reflect in order to take full advantage of these tools. We also want to reach people that are not part of a formal program.

Next steps

1st step: Development of guidelines through a research project (with young people) and suggestions for implementation. There should be a standardized research methodology than can be applied in different settings/countries.

2nd step: Promotion of the guidelines

- directly to young people (internet, social media)
- through organisations (find partners)

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Guidelines for NGOs how to cooperate with schools

Idea

In order to get more recognition from schools and to improve and boost cooperation with the schools we suggest to create guidelines booklet for NGOs. In this document you find ideas for realisation and promoting of such guidelines and a table of possible content.

Realisation + Promoting

Analysis of existing materials (Südtiroler Jugending (Moderationsmethoden, Kinder- und Jugendpartizipation), Infoklick.ch, treib-stoff.ch, Stiftung Bildung und Entwicklung (Global Education), Euforia-Step into action, BBE)

Realisation by umbrella/network organisation (SAJV?) in cooperation with different stakeholders (schools, teachers, pupils, NGOs, ministries, parents). Inform stakeholders about the plans and find out needs. Do it together!

Financing

Promotion to NGOs (distribution of guidelines)

Promotion on political level to ministries/board of education (spread the idea)

Introduction: Goals of the guideline:

- Making volunteer work more popular in schools
- New picture of NGOs (NGOs are educational institutions as well and not just a hobby)
- Improve collaboration between NGOs and schools

How to present your NGOs towards schools/PR

- Take the viewpoint of schools (teachers/pupils)/Needs of schools
- We offer support and don't creat more work for teachers
- We offer expertise and knowledge on concrete topics: environment, civil society, human rights,...
- No salesman attitudes

Next steps

Best practices examples

What to consider (project management):

- Preparation
- Budget
- Number of volunteers
- Material
- Documentation/Follow up
- Evaluation
- ...

How to deal with difficulties:

- Refusal/Critics of: schools, ministries, teachers, parents, pupils

What to offer:

- Make clear what you offer (concrete projects, topic, knowledge, expertise, support)

Are there costs for schools?

- Who is involved (roles, responsibilities)

How long will it take?

- Transparency about sponsors
- Advantages of your offer
- Information about school system:
 - Links (www...) to further information (ministries, list of local schools and contacts)
 - Who to contact first (single school or board of education)
 - Information about curricula (which topic are discussed in which year/age)

Next Steps

Find a organisation or team to realise the guideline booklet.

Look for stakeholders/partners

Analyse existing materials

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Joint PR brochure of NGOs including guidelines and recommendations addressing schools (on how to collaborate with NGOs)

Idea

What can you as a school gain from a collaboration with NGOs?

(Free) support in education and additional human and teaching resources.

Support in social adaptation and during migration process.

Expertise in certain topics and issues.

Motivated students that have an interest in contributing to civil society development

Role model behavior by working with volunteers (“If he/she can do it – I can do it too”)

Insight into the work of a volunteer organization

What can we NGOs offer to you as a school? Methods

Offers for half a day or one day training opportunities (workshops, team-building activities, ...) - read made concepts (no work for school side required)

Trained voluntary educators in different topics and non-formal learning methods

Manuals and other knowledge resources.

Interactive methods (workshops, outdoor and extra curriculum activities).

Information and contacts with other NGOs and institutions (networking for specific needs or purpose).

Next steps

Ideas

In which thematic fields are we active and can offer you p.ex. Interactive educational workshops?

Youth participation and voluntary work / Ecology awareness / HIV/AIDS awareness raising / Illiteracy issue / Racism and discrimination / Environmentalism / Intercultural Learning / Advocacy and policy work / Sports education / Health promotion / Global Learning (Human Rights, Sustainability, Peace education) / Violence prevention / Political education and awareness raising / Poverty / North-South dialogue / Social inclusion / Emergency rescue / Quality of life / Musical education / Gender education

Next steps

Share these ideas with as many NGOs as possible to have common guidelines that can be distributed to schools

Add specific workshop, training offers by NGOs to this general guidelines

distribute the guidelines to schools

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Peer to peer – face to face

Idea

Wie kann der Pool an Möglichkeiten und Informationen zur Jugendaktion/Partizipation an den Mann/Frau gebracht werden?

Nach dem Aufbau eines Experten-Pools fungieren die Jugendlichen Experten als MultiplikatorInnen, positive Identifikations-Personen und Jugend in Aktions-BotschaferInnen und vermitteln face-to-face ihre Erfahrungen, um verschiedene Angebote lebendig und konkret erfahrbar zu machen und Jugendliche zur Selbsterfahrung zu motivieren.

Wer baut den Pool an Experten auf?

InitiatorInnen, welche z.B. Dachverbände und Jugendnetzwerke (Jugendreferat, Infoeck, DOJ, SAJV, Privatpersonen) sind, stellen ihre einzelnen Angebote zu einem Gemeinschaftlichen zusammen.

Wer sind die ExpertInnen?

Für die einzelnen Bereiche des Angebotes werden Jugendliche gesucht, die eigene Erfahrungen gesammelt haben und diese weitergeben möchten.

Wer sind die Zielpersonen?

Alle Jugendlichen!

Was bedeutet Face-to-face?

Der Austausch über die Jugendaktion erfolgt in direkter oder persönlicher Interaktion. -BotschafterInnen erzählen von Angesicht zu Angesicht von ihrer Erfahrung

Next steps

Wo?

In Schulen, Jugendzentren, Berufsmessen, Berufsorientierungskursen, ...

Ziel?

Erfahrungsgemäß ist die Verbreitung des Angebots face-to-face am effektivsten verschiedene Angebote lebendig und konkret erfahrbar zu machen und Jugendliche zur Selbsterfahrung zu motivieren.

Next steps

Dachverband/Jugendnetzwerk (z.B. In Österreich: Jugendreferat; Ch: DOJ, SAJV)

Kontaktaufnahme mit Schulen/SchulsozialleiterInnen, Veranstalter von Berufsorientierungskursen/-messen, Jugendzentren,

Aufbau eines Experten-Pools (Jugendliche mit Erfahrungen in EVS, Youth Exchange, South initiative, projects)

Organisieren von Meetings

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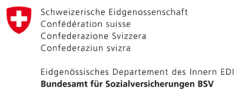
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Go to <http://reconnaisances.ch/pictures> to get an impression of how the ideas in this booklet were developed.

On <http://reconnaisances.ch/followup> you'll find information on how the ideas will be developed further. Let's use this platform to keep each other updated on the ideas we realize.

We'll also meet offline on November 24th 2011 in Berne, Switzerland and coordinate how to bring (some of) these ideas into life.

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