

Questionnaire for the preparation of the project INTEGRATION

This questionnaire aims at describing the actual situation in your institution and in your country as to intercultural issues and practice in order to prepare our common project INTEGRATION. The collected information will be the basis for our further activities.

Version dated November 23rd 2004

Part A: Profile of your institution

1. Basic Data Regarding your Institution

1.1 Name and type of the institution:

BUPNET GmbH

1.2 Address and email:

Am Leinekanal 4; D – 37073 Göttingen; swieman@bupnet.de

1.3 Contact person:

Sabine Wiemann and Karen Richter

1.4 Number of staff members

20

1.5 Main activities

Conception and realisation of vocational training courses and European projects. Software development.

1.6 Experiences in the field of intercultural projects

Several European projects without a special focus on intercultural aspects but interculturality is important even for European projects.

1.7 Do you and your colleagues have any experiences in the field of eLearning?

(If yes, please give a short description and your judgement on quality and usefulness)

BUPNET has been developing an eLearning platform and instruments since 1999. The platform has been tested and further developed in several national and international projects. We also develop eLearning content and media. To our opinion, eLearning should always be a part of a blended learning course (a mix of different methodologies), so that the participants of a training course have the opportunity not to meet only virtually, but also in the traditional classroom which has positive effects on their motivation.

2. Education of staff members in your institution

2.1 Are intercultural competencies transmitted in the vocational training of pedagogical staff? *(Please consider different professional groups like educators, teachers, trainers in training institutes, pedagogues in kindergarten etc.)*

No, it's not part of their training.

2.2 Does your institution offer intercultural training for staff members?

(If yes, please describe shortly the training offers, methods, amount of time, success)

Not for the moment. We are actually developing the intercultural training.

2.3 Have any or even all of your staff members been in an intercultural training that was given by any other institution and how was its quality and usefulness?

Some staff members have followed an intercultural training in other institutions (for example in the ifak, Göttingen, which is specialised in intercultural training). One colleague studied intercultural pedagogic at the University of Göttingen. She is working in the project INTEGRATION

2.4 Do you feel that there is a need for intercultural training for staff members in your institution? *(Please explain your answer and the requirements/competencies)*

We don't have a great need for intercultural training in our institution. Even if our courses are sometimes frequented by people from other cultural groups, we haven't had intercultural critical incidents.

As we are working with many different partners and networks, we realised that there is a great need for people dealing with different cultural groups in other social organisations. We were asked in the framework of national projects to develop an intercultural training for staff members in social organisations.

2.5 Are there any instructional designs or course materials for intercultural competencies (texts, films, simulation games etc.), that you could recommend or offer to other INTEGRATION projects?

3. Questions regarding specific situation of your target groups

3.1 Target groups of your institution

In the framework of the project, we are working with local organisations with multiethnic target groups. We are going to put the focus on the German Russians who have quite a special status in Germany.

3.2 Short description of composition of target groups (migrants, ethnic groups, homogeneity/heterogeneity, etc.)

The composition of target groups of our social partners is

3.3 Does the composition of your target group reflect the actual situation in your town, region and country? *(Please give a short explanation)*

It reflects the situation of the quarter, but not necessarily of the town or region.

3.4. What is the estimated size of the target group?

Staff members: about 25 (for the moment), ethnic groups: about 200

3.5 Do you have to cope with specific problems due to ethnic variety of your target group? *(If yes, please explain shortly how)*

- Staff members are lacking of background information and encounter problems in daily work concerning food, religion, traditions and family structures (patriarchal)
- Interaction and communication is often difficult due to language problems
- Integration of certain ethnic groups in activities (festivities) is difficult (perhaps offers don't meet their interest). Programme for activities has to be revised – it would be good if this could be done together with people from all different ethnic groups

3.6 Do you offer intercultural activities for your target groups to promote the integration of different ethnic groups?

Yes, intercultural activities are regularly offered, but as mentioned above, not always well received or accepted. For example: for a period an “intercultural breakfast” was offered in one of our partner kindergarten to promote the contact among parents from different ethnic groups. Mostly only German mothers came.

3.7 Please give a short description of actual situation in your country as to intercultural issues and practice (legal situation, ethnic groups, migration policy, problems, national integration programmes etc. etc.) (there are good national web sites which you should refer to, don't feel that you have to write everything yourself)

All the following information are to be found on the official website of the Federal Ministry of the Interior:

The Federal Government's new policy on immigration is oriented on the following key principles:

- managing immigration in a more targeted way that takes Germany's economic and societal needs into account, and limiting future immigration;
- integrating legal immigrants living permanently in Germany;
- fulfilling humanitarian obligations derived from the German constitution and a number of internationally binding conventions and agreements;
- ensuring the protection of Germany and the people who live here;
- actively advocating Germany's views within the European Union.

The reform of nationality law in 2000 was an important first step in creating a modern and comprehensive body of legislation in this area. The Immigration Act is the next important step in this direction.

The Immigration Act went into force on 1 January 2005, following a long and difficult legislative process and intense discussions in public and in the Bundestag and Bundesrat.

The Immigration Act for the first time provides a legislative framework for controlling and restricting immigration as a whole. The new law also contains measures to promote the integration of legal immigrants in Germany.

Components of the Immigration Act

The Immigration Act is made up of the Residence Act (AufenthG), the Act on the General Freedom of Movement for EU Citizens (Freedom of Movement Act/EU) and amendments to additional legislation. The Immigration Act authorized the passage of legal ordinances on lawful employment of foreigners already living in Germany (BeschVerfV, PDF 71 KB) and of those entering Germany for the first time (BeschV, PDF 106 KB). A new ordinance

on residence (AufenthV, PDF 523 KB) consolidates regulations previously found in the Ordinance Implementing the Foreigners Act and in the ordinances dealing with fees, data and transmission of files regarding foreigners.

In principle, the Residence Act does not apply to citizens of European Union member states who are entitled to freedom of movement; their legal status is defined in the new Freedom of Movement Act/EU.

more information on immigration law and policy:

http://www.bmi.bund.de/nn_148138/Internet/Content/Common/Anlagen/Broschueren/2005/Zuwanderungspolitik_und_Zuwanderungsrecht_en,templateId=raw,property=publicationFile.pdf/Zuwanderungspolitik_und_Zuwanderungsrecht_en

Foreigners in Germany by nationality

The number of foreigners in Germany reflects not only migration movements, but also the number of births to foreigners in Germany (so-called second- and third-generation immigrants), deaths and naturalizations. Of the approximately 7.3 million foreigners in Germany (as of 31 December 2003), about 2.34 million are citizens of one of the other 24 European Union member states (32% of all foreigners). The largest groups of foreigners are made up of Turkish citizens (1.88 million, or 25.6% of all foreigners), Italians (600,000 or 8.2%), citizens of Serbia and Montenegro (570,000 or 7.7%), Greeks (350,000 or 4.8%) and Poles (330,000 or 4.5%). Roughly one of every five foreigners living in Germany was born here (1.5 million persons) and is thus a second- or third-generation immigrant. Thirty-five per cent of the Turkish citizens living in Germany were born here, as were 29% of the Italians, 27% of the Greeks, 20% of the citizens of Serbia and Montenegro and 5% of the Poles.

Distribution of foreigners

The number of foreigners as a proportion of the total population varies widely by region: In the area of the former German Democratic Republic (not including Berlin), foreigners account for only 1.9% of the population, whereas in the former West Germany, about one of every ten residents is a foreigner. But here too, the distribution is very uneven, ranging from 19.5% in Hamburg to 5% in the state of Schleswig-Holstein, according to the Central Aliens Register. In some larger cities, the proportion of foreigners is even higher, for example 25% in Offenbach, 24.5% in Stuttgart, 24.1% in Frankfurt and 22.8% in Munich (as of December 2001). Overall, 25% of foreigners (as compared to 12% of Germans) live in cities with more than 500,000 residents

Immigration and Emigration

The statistics on immigration and emigration offer a general picture of migratory movements in Germany: From 1991 to 2003, 14.2 million Germans and foreigners moved to Germany, while 9.6 million moved away. The high-water mark was reached in 1992, with 1.5 million persons immigrating to Germany; in 2003, this number dipped slightly below 800,000 for the first time. The high numbers of immigrants can be attributed mainly to increased immigration by ethnic Germans from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union up to the mid-1990s, to greater numbers of asylum seekers up to 1992, to refugees from war and civil unrest in the former Yugoslavia starting in 1991/92 (most of whom have since returned home), and to increased short-term labour migration from non-EU countries, especially by seasonal and contract workers. Foreigners make up the largest proportion of persons immigrating to and emigrating from Germany: From 1999 to 2003, roughly 78% of persons moving to Germany and 82% of those moving away were foreigners. Germans immigrating to Germany are citizens returning from abroad and ethnic Germans from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union; although they are Germans according to the Basic Law, they often lack adequate language skills and have a difficult time becoming integrated into German society.

more information: http://www.zuwanderung.de/english/1_statistik.html

Part C: Feedback on the questionnaire

1. What questions have been missed in the questionnaire?

2 Which questions have been difficult to answer?

3. What else would you like to tell us? (Suggestions/praise/criticism)

Part D: Expectations in the project INTEGRATION

1. What have been your motivations to join the partnership?

We are the coordinators of the project. We came up to the project idea in the framework of a Grundtvig 2 project together with the Paritätischer Kindergarten Grone, Göttingen. In that former project, we developed computer-based learning material for staff and children for the kindergarten (the kindergarten had no experience with computer-based training before). The results were very encouraging and motivating and we decided to further develop the approach and to intensify the staff training focussing this time on intercultural aspects.

2. What are your expectations in the project

We hope to develop relevant training material for blended learning on intercultural issues and to disseminate the results to interested social organisations.

3. Are there any subjects you are specially interested in to be dealt with within the partnership?

Application of the blended learning approach for staff training in social institutions: how do they cope with this (for them) quite new methodology? Can we find transferable contents which could be interesting for an international public?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR HAVING COMPLETED THIS QUESTIONNAIRE!!!

Kind regards
Sabine Wiemann