

## Minutes of 5th project meeting in Lillehammer/Norway

13<sup>rd</sup> till 16<sup>nd</sup> March 2011

### Present:

Alfred Lang	- Research Society Burgenland
Gert Tschögl	- Research Society Burgenland
Ernst Holzinger	- Research Society Burgenland
Stefanie Schuldes	- Volkshochschule Jena
Christian Ziege	- Volkshochschule Jena
Christian Hill	- Volkshochschule Jena
Stefanie Kirsch	- Volkshochschule Sonneberg
Wolfgang Volkmer	- Thüringer Volkshochschulverband e.V.
Ulli Klaum	- VNB Göttingen
Volker Weiss	- VNB Göttingen
Stephan Mertens	- VNB Göttingen
Hanne Gihleengen	- Oppland fylkesbibliotek
Gunhild Aalstad	- Oppland fylkesbibliotek
Berit Strømshoved	- Oppland fylkesbibliotek
Sonja Heimdal (Tuesday 15th of March)	- Oppland fylkesbibliotek
Mina Th. Watz	- Oppland fylkesbibliotek
Håvard Lund (Tuesday 15th of March)	- Oppland fylkesbibliotek
Mark Costello	- Variety Town
Andrew Storey	- Variety Town
Nadia Srasra	- Vereniging voor Ontwikeling en Emancipatie van Moslims Gent & Oost
Frank De Jonckheere	- Vereniging voor Ontwikeling en Emancipatie van Moslims Gent & Oost
Ghizlane Najmi	- Vereniging voor Ontwikeling en Emancipatie van Moslims Gent & Oost
Mina Chebaa Mimou	- Vereniging voor Ontwikeling en Emancipatie van Moslims Gent & Oost

### TOP 1 WELCOME OF PARTNERS

### TOP 2 VISIT TO LILLEHAMMER EDUCATONAL CENTRE

Our first visit in Norway and one of the good-practice-examples was the Lillehammer education centre "Sammen om Learningscenter". 379 students from 50 different nations learn together at the education centre. This center is the respons to the ca. 45 refugees that Lillehammer takes in every year. Within this centre adults and children learn Norwegian together as well as they have some leisure-time activities in the

afternoon. There is also an offer of counseling and medical support for the newcomers available. The centre works together with the oppland library.

### TOP 3 GUIDED TOUR TO THE COUNTY LIBRARY

The library is an important and well designed meeting point for all citizens. With more than 600 visits per day and a big offer of books, newspapers and other medias in Norwegian and other languages the library is a place for norwegians and migrants as well.

### TOP 4 FIRESIDE CHAT

Volker Weiss made an intercultural session with the whole project group. During this session we learned about the understandings and misunderstandings in intercultural situations.

Ulli Klaum carried out a workshop. The workshop had a focus on project work we carried out so far and what we have learned during the lifetime of the project. The following questions were asked:

#### **WHICH WAS PARTICULARLY? NEW? SURPRISING? STRANGE? CONFIRMING?**

##### **ON THE PROJECT – what we accomplished**

- Confusing for me: „Learners Voices“ and the many discussions about it
- Diversity of the group has worked
- Getting in Contact with people You don't know
- Common understanding of intercultural problems within the group
- Everything is new for me. It's the first time I participate a project like this. I like to see how the structure is in other countries. I enjoy it!
- Events during the visits → Learning sth new → being surprised

##### **WHAT I HAVE LEARNED**

- We are living in a diverse Europe
- Different ways of countries to practise adult education
- How buildings have to be, so that citizens use them
- How far EAST Austria is in the relation between Eastern Austria and its Eastern European Nations at the former Iron Curtain border
- That civil courage of the soldiers did help to open the iron curtain
- New: The visit to a mosque, to be inside – I was never before in a mosque
- Particularly: The work of the Akademie Waldschloesschen and the history of the Gay & Lesbian Movement
- Surprising: The Voluntaries and the Big Engagement in Carlisle Community (Bicycle Trips etc.)
- The different roles/importance of NGOs and ‚governmental‘ institutions in different countries
- Surprising: A LGBT Adult Ed Center in Germany!
- Surprising: the diversity among the partners, from VOEM to library, both engaged in (international) education and following the same goal!



### Esp. ON INTEGRATION

- Different ways of integration
- The hope of an integration in society as a motor of energy
- Surprising: today in learning center, an open atmosphere and professional approach, a global problem is dealt on a municipal level
- Surprise: the structure of the Educational Center (Lillehammer) → a clear example for our project!
- Surprise: Looking for refugees in other (Home)countries → Integration center (Lillehammer)
- New: 1st time to find an integration center with → Focus on meeting points, e.g. libraries
- Special education program for immigrants in ed center and in a library
- Confirming: the Lillehammer Education Center: liberalism in Scandinavia, level of finances (as it appears) spent on small population number of refugees and recent immigrants. I wonder how long this will continue

### Impulses & STATEMENTS

- „Intercultural“ is not only about one single group (e.g. refugees)
- That in all visited countries there is a new understanding of education as a self determined process

### TOP 5 VISIT OF THE EXHIBITION “WE WON THE LAND”

The exhibition, we visit, had a focus on the people who settled in Norway. We learned about the formation of the nation Norway and the life of the people during this particular time. The exhibition closed with the “future room” where everybody had the time to collect some inspirations about his own possibilities and the question: how will we want to live in the future?

### TOP 6 DISSEMINATION

The template for the E-brochure as the final product of our project was presented by Mark Costello.

The Template was discussed by the partners. The following was agreed on:

1. Introduction
  - a. Project background
  - b. Short abstract about the involved organisations and the staff
  - c. Contact
2. Provide Summary of meta analysis 2 - "understanding intercultural and political ed' in our regions/countries (presentations in Austria) ALL PARTNERS to be emailed to Mark by APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>
3. Trainers voices  
Ulli, Volker, Nadia, Mark - experience and thoughts on training in different environment with diverse groups of people etc



to Mark APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>

4. Learners Voices  
Ulli, Volker, Nadia, Gert, Alfred, Margit, Wolfgang, Mark - describe your journey though the project - where did you start, what effect has the project had on your learning, what have you learned etc - max 1 page - to Mark APRIL 22<sup>nd</sup>
5. Good practice examples based on TEMPLATE Wolfgang has sent - examples and links  
Stephan, Wolfgang, Gert, Mina and Nadia  
to Mark April 15th.
6. NOT THE END - Ulli and Mark to highlight possible projects arising from Pathways  
to Mark April 22nd

#### **TOP7 MISCELLANEOUS/ FURTER STEPS**

The reflection round of the project meeting was carried out by Wolfgang Volkmer.

All participants enjoyed the meeting and the learning experiences. The meeting was well organized and interisting. For the meeting in Jena the participants want the contact with migrants and more time for discussion. Allthou it would be interisting to learn something about the history of the GDR-time.

**Keeper of the minutes: Wolfgang Volkmer**