Partnership at eye level

For over 20 years, we have been developing international projects for training and continuing education, which we provide jointly with our local partners. We are now active in 30 countries on four continents.

We base all projects on the needs of the German companies on site or social policy related requirements and train skilled workers on the basis of dual German training structures. Why? Because the inclusion of hands-on training at a company along with classroom education has also proven to be extremely valuable internationally. Our objective is a high level of process and result quality. For example, this is why we count on first-hand transfer of knowledge and organize study trips. We support the establishment of local networks of companies, industrial associations and state institutions. Only a stable network can be the basis for long-term developments.

We benefit from our many years of developing relationships with companies and associations for all of our activities. I am proud that we are frequently implementing innovative projects in addition to proven projects in many countries.

We are introducing some of these projects to you in this newsletter. Enjoy the read!

Yours

Anna Engel-Köhler
Managing Director
Bildungswerk der Bayerischen Wirtschaft e. V.
Training “Made in Germany”

German vocational training enjoys an excellent reputation worldwide. The bbw Group supports other countries in their efforts to design hands-on training, just as it is the case with the dual system in Germany.

The bbw Group is close to the industry and thereby made for implementing solid vocational training in international markets. We have been represented abroad with numerous projects for more than 20 years. We support other countries in their efforts of introducing dual vocational training, organise industry-specific delegation travel for companies and institutions and provide training for employees of German companies abroad.

German competence in vocational training is in demand more than anything else. Many companies abroad are interested in establishing a dual vocational training system based on the German example. The most recent financial crisis, with partially extremely high rates of youth unemployment, has shown the importance and necessity of vocational training for stable economies. Industrial and emerging nations face the challenge of training qualified personnel, especially because modern production processes are becoming more and more complex and the intertwining of international business processes is consistently increasing.

Continuity “Made in China”

The bbw Group was among the first German educational institutions that braved the first step to the Far East. The group has been active in the People’s Republic for more than 20 years. China places a high value on Germany and its training and continuing education system.

Since 2007, sbvtc has been training vocational students on the basis of German industrial standards to ensure that a sufficient number of qualified technicians are available for German industrial operations. Chinese trainers of the sbvtc and German short-term experts are training toolmakers at three partner schools. Participants of the sbvtc have been requested by numerous renowned German companies, including Volkswagen, KUKA, Koerber-Schleifring and Marquard. In addition, sbvtc supports Shanghai vocational schools in providing speciality courses in CNC lathing and CNC milling and introducing business training firms. To date, the sbvtc is the only provider of integration projects for young people seeking employment and business training firms. In June 2016, the sbvtc training centre in Shanghai was inaugurated. At this training centre, 60 young people seeking employment are currently qualified in two integration projects and at one business training firm for placement in the employment market.

Vocational training against causes of flight

In Lebanon, the country with the largest concentration of refugees per capita worldwide, the bfz International Division Hof is engaged in a project within refugee camps. Qualification restores vocational opportunities for young people.

Since 2016, students can complete vocational training at their general education school in addition to their classwork. Bavarian experts are supporting the establishment of such structures. Not only the Bavarian State Government, but also the Federal Government, support this cause. They are interested in providing refugees with a reason to stay in their countries of origin or the host countries in the Mediterranean region. The new selection of vocational training options is intended for students in Lebanon who live in refugee camps. Following a skill analysis and subsequent occupational orientation, the BINA project (Arabic: Building) provides them with specialised practical training in parallel with their classwork in the areas of electronics/solar, sanitary/heating, hotel/gastronomy, warehouse/logistics, care of the elderly and also social skills in the GOAL project. One practical day per week is scheduled at the schools, which can also take place at the camps. Job placement officers who have been trained by the bfz assist with the job search following the training.
Promotion of vocational training in Tunisia

In November 2016, 15 Tunisian trainees received their Certificate of Completion for hands-on training in Tunisia. Dr. Beate Merk, Europe Minister, presented the awards during a festive ceremony. The Bildungswerk der Bayerischen Wirtschaft (bbw) gGmbH is establishing a system for the certification of vocational training.

Since the beginning of 2012, the bbw has been actively involved in several projects that promote vocational training. The objective is to design the Tunisian training system in step with actual practice and with an increased focus on needs. The German dual training thereby serves as an example. To date, the new vocational training for “Mechatronics Maintenance Technician” has been implemented in cooperation with Tunisian partners. The vocational training for “Injection Moulding Technician” has been adjusted to meet the actual requirements of the companies. In addition, several partner schools have been equipped with machines and more than 100 teachers have received advanced training in action based didactics. The trainees must be actively involved in the classes and work independently with a focus on solutions. At the end of 2013, the first two pilot classes started with the new skilled trade “Mechatronics Maintenance Technician”. By now, there are already more than 140 trainees in this trade. The trainees spend approximately 40 percent of their time at companies that we have agreements with, similar to the German training contract. For the first time, they are receiving a small training compensation.

At the request of the Tunisian Ministry for Vocational Training and Employment (MFPE), a certification system has been under development since December 2014 for the operational part of the training in Tunisia. The project is financed by the Bavarian State Chancellery. In May 2015, the bbw, MFPE and vbw – Association of Bavarian Industry in Tunis entered a cooperation agreement that represents the basis for joint certificates. The certificates are awarded upon the successful completion of the final exam at the company and certify practical knowledge. The Tunisian partner for this purpose is the UTICA (Union tunisienne de l’Industrie, du Commerce et de l’Artisanat). Furthermore, a manual was developed and selected representatives of the Tunisian Vocational Education System were trained to develop the relevant structures.

The results of various projects were consolidated: In Spring 2016, 15 trainees of the two pilot classes successfully passed the initial hands-on examinations in accordance with the new certification structures. On November 8, 2016, Dr. Beate Merk, Bavarian State Minister for European Affairs and Regional Relations, presented the joint certificate of bbw, vbw and UTICA. The ceremony was attended by the German Ambassador, the President of UTICA and the Tunisian Minister for Vocational Training and Employment in Tunis. More than 90 percent of the graduates were hired by the companies.

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