

Learn2Change - Global Network of Educational Activists

Protocol of the results of the Kick Off Meeting for the International Summer Academy, 14.12.-17.12.2014 in Barnstorf

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Schedule of the Summer Academy

- 30.5. introductory seminar (Hannover)
- 31.5. - 5.6. round trip, project visits (Lower Saxony, Bremen)
- 5.6. youth conference (Verden)
- 7.6. – 11.6. conference (Loccum)
- 12.6. evaluation (Hannover)

Conference – Basic Information as written in the application

- Date: 7.6.-11.6.2015
- Place: Evangelische Akademie Loccum
- 40 participants
 - 12 International experts
 - 28 German multipliers
- Themes / issues
 - What is development?
 - What means “good life”, “wealth”, “happiness”?
 - Global challenges for a sustainable development
 - Local challenges for a sustainable development
 - Good practice – sharing, testing, improving → 12 methods
 - Concepts of global education for sustainable development
 - The role and the possibilities of education for social transformation

Conference: Desired Outcome

- Lay the foundation of an international network
 - Participants are motivated to actively engage in the long term
 - Identify further participants to be invited into the network
 - Agreement on a functioning (given resources) and inviting network; structure + organization + communication (web platform)
- Identifying commonalities in visions + practice with respect to particular perspectives, needs, realities, approaches
 - Form concrete partnerships, working groups,...
 - Define statements / messages to other networks we are involved in, maybe create common actions / goals

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- Reflection of one's own practice, values
 - Empowerment! (Everyone feels empowered)
- Diversification of educational practice
 - Broadening of own conceptualization of concepts of "Development", Transformation, Good Life etc.
 - New perspectives on (own) educational concepts and methods
 - Getting to know / trying and take home good practice approaches and methods
 - Clarity: What means "Learning" for us?
- Write up a declaration to go to the UNESCO on global learning + MDG's post 2015 / SDG's
- Tangible outcome e.g. film, publication, [interactive]song, street theatre, ... / Public presentation (→ action)

Conference: Criteria for participants

- Civil Society Actors
- Multipliers
- Balance between gender, age, continents
- Participant shall be active in education for social transformation + being a role model (also: activists, farmer,...)
- Balance between theoretical and practical inputs / backgrounds
- Participants should be interested / willing to participate actively, also in the network
- Language: English
- 2 persons from one region, who can work together afterwards

Essential contents & methods for the Summer Academy

- Methods
 - Linked with content
 - Space to share, e.g. films
 - How to reach different target groups?
 - Linked with action
 - *lobby work
 - *protest forms
 - *flash mob
 - Storytelling
 - Holistic / all senses!
 - Creative
 - *paint!
 - *puppet making
 - *music, hip hop, rap

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- *theatre
- *poetry
- *cooking
- *poster design
- *outdoor activities → in the forest, moor...
- *Celebrate! Have fun!

- Final artwork which could be the symbol of the network created by all participants together
- (transformative) Learning
 - Organize / include open spaces! – for interaction
 - Dancing and celebrating for change
 - Community building, e.g. paint a shelter for children or elders
- Platform
 - Practical exercises
- How do we include different concepts of learning?
- Content
 - Different concepts & understanding, e.g. unions, women, indigenous,...
 - Practice
 - How to convince people to go “back” (sustainable, traditional means)
 - Human rights!
 - Relation to earth
 - Political
 - Decolonizing Development → critics; systemic approach
 - Theories & practices of change
 - Building of a global network
 - Change
 - *Best practice
 - *Buen vivir
 - *Role models
 - * Stories of: change, resistance, social protest, lived utopias
- Faith-based movement? – people of all faith...
- Intercultural communication (introductory seminar maybe more than 1 day?)

Round trip + Project visits – Basic information as written in the application

- Date: 31.5.-5.6.2015
- Place: Lower Saxony & Bremen
- 12 international experts + 3 attendants split up into three groups (4 international experts + 1 attendant)
- 7 project visits + 5 public events

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Round trip: wishes and ideas for visits (classified by theme)

Schools/Youth/children/Education

- Youth groups, schools
- Sit through a school session on GLSD
- KGS Wenningsen (school)
- School seminar house Nienstedt / Leibnizschool
- Primary schools working on GE with small children
- Peer-Leader-International
- NLQ teacher training
- School biology-centre
- (min.) 1 school which is part of the pilot project
- School partnership Nicaragua (Oldenburg)
- University of Lüneburg → teachers education + ESD
- Ministry of education in Lower Saxony
- University
- VNB / VEN (Hannover) / VNB headquarter
- projects dealing with popular education
- Out-door-activities in the forest with children, youth...

Environment

- JANUN – Youth environmental headquarter
- Reproduction garden (seeds), biodiversity
- Gut Adolphshof Lehrte, agriculture
- Energy- and environmental center Springe / Eldagsen
- Farm
- Regional environmental centers
- Nationalpark Wattenmeer / Northsee-Nationalparkhouse
- Ecovillage Steyerberg + permaculture
- Animal-related conservation (Wiesentgehege)
- SOLAWI: community based agriculture
- World garden (Weltgarten Witzenhausen)
- Extractivism
- Movement academy Verden → attac; campact; ecological sound building, straw / clay building; conference venue
- VEN-Conference “Utopista” → Meeting young people on the topic of “Degrowth”

Fair Trade

- 1 Fair Trade Shop, also involved in education, e.g. Stade
- El Puente + Worldcafé Hildesheim
- Local CCC action group [Clean Clothes Campaign] (Hannover / Bremen)
- JANUN: city tour on Globalization / Consumption (Hannover)

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Human Rights

- Network of lobbying, legal aid for human rights, global rights
- human rights education

Religion

- House of religions

Politics

- A politician

Economy

- Grass roots level engagements for sustainable economy
- VEN-Conference "Utopista" → Meeting young people on the topic of "Degrowth"
- Extractivism

Women

- La Rosa, Women's Group (Hannover)
- Women's networks

Migration

- Kargah, Migrant Center (Hannover)
- "Deutsches Auswanderer Museum" → Migrants Museum (Bremerhaven)

Culture/Arts/Media

- Community radio initiative
- Artistic expression to advocate for rights: theatre, music, puppetry

Development

- Ifak / BtE
- BtE, Education meets development
- Education and development initiatives
- (min) 1 group / initiative in the field of solidarity / development work ... (e.g. Oldenburg/Göttingen, Reg. Promoter)
- development finance

International

- Indisches Haus (Indian house / small initiative)
- Peer-Leader-International

Practical work

- Train the trainer initiatives (look at modules, attend a session, watch a session on GLSD in progress)
- Learning spaces (experiencing activities) instead of too much office talks
- Could serve better purpose to combine visits with practical action – doing something if possible – to live the idea of changing conditions of living
- Out-door-activities in the forest with children, youth...

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Civil Society

- Exchange with colleagues working in strengthening organizations + networks of civil society
- active citizen concept

Miscellaneous

- Could visit historical, cultural and political sites with educational purpose
- Zoo (Hannover)
- Would like to visit projects dealing with global justice

Round trip: Ideas for Public Events (classified by theme/working area)

Culture / Creative work

- Creative puppetmaking workshop
- Craftsmen-art project (Smith – Springe)
- Creative work → music, dance, theatre, crafts- and artwork, cooking
- Creative workshops

Lecture/Stories

- Gift the books on santal creation stories to NGO's, learning centres
- Lecture
- Storytelling sessions for children / adults on Adivasi traditional folklore (relevant to topic)

Movies / Media

- Show docu-films and have discussions on them; simple screening
- Movie + discussions
- Film screening
- Meeting with young photo journalist and young scientist / global issues (Hannover)
- Workshops / Film Shows + lecture / additional + integrated into local activities

Project management / organizational development

- Workshop on project-development & -management
- Pathway to vision → "parable of the cow"
- Exercises to reflect about organizational development, e.g.: generational transition...

Presentations of countries / experiences

- Learning in Nicaragua → timeline / approaches; challenges; partnership (Solingen – Jinotega)
- Could offer or wish to share contemporary experiences related to peer-leader (international) + non formal learning and youth participation in politics and development (South Africa)
- Always: short presentation of own engagement (+ "message to Germans")?
- Workshops / presentation on Adivasi issues
- Presentation of movements / good practice

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Methods

- Festivals as means for transformation
- Practical workshops? (agriculture?)
- Exchange / meeting with multipliers in GL e.g. ["steps" to action] methods
- Workshops / Film Shows + lecture / additional + integrated into local activities

Discussions on development

- Development in the context of cultural and environmental heritage
- Visit project on GE in primary schools in Hannover, discussion on development

Miscellaneous

- Maybe if it fits: workshop with weltwärts-volunteers
- Meeting with young photo journalist and young scientist / global issues (Hannover)

Name Search for the Network

A name could not be fixed, but some ideas were collected:

- Global Learning Community
- International, Global, Cross-National, Transnational ??
- Network, Platform, Forum, Community ??
- Global Learning, Transformative Learning, Social Learning, Another Learning ??
- Activists, Multipliers, Change Makers, Agents of change, ...
- Idea for logo: - learning – for – change – for –learning – (written in a circle)
- Togetherearth
- Polymundo (or –mondo)
- Estimation
- Polyteness
- Ecovercity, Sustainology, Ecoborate
- Global learning community network
- Tapestry, Eco-Narratives, Alter Voice
- Polysyllabic

Contributions

- Internet, iversity: Christine
- Documentation, editing work: Ruby
- Methodology of the conference: Rita, Marion
- Visit tour: Sabine