

Berufsintegrationsklassen (BIK)



classroom scene

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Location

Oberbayern and Schwaben (Upper Bavaria and Swabia)

Country

Germany

Short summarizing description

“Berufsintegrationsklassen” (BIK) are classes especially for refugees and asylum seekers at an age of 16-25, but also for migrants (of the European Union, Economic and Monetary Union and Switzerland) with a similar language level. The strategic focus of the first year is on the German language. In the second year the main focus is on job orientation. Most of the time the students are at school. Especially in the second year they are also doing trainings at companies or within educational institutions to find an adequate apprenticeship for themselves. These classes are a governmental project. The main targets of the project are the integration into the German society and to prepare students for an apprenticeship or other VET programs. The program includes different partners like vocational schools, educational institutions, companies and social workers.

Key Terms

Language, values, job-orientation

Context and background, Which problems/challenges does your measure try to solve/cope with?

The aim of the BIK is to prepare the students for an apprenticeship. Thus, learning to speak the host language is the first and most important challenge. Furthermore need to know the basic values of western societies and what benefit an apprenticeship can have for their lives. The students should be supported in three different ways: 1. Language, basic values, general knowledge 2. Vocational orientation 3. Preparation for a vocational education The decision of the Free State of Bavaria to open its vocational education system for refugees and asylum seekers enables these students to gain work experience and it will help them with their career choices. The outcome oriented approach at school has the goal to develop skills, knowledge and qualifications.

Which are the key objectives of your measure?

The educational objectives of this measure are to prepare students for a vocational education, to improve their language skills, to improve their mathematics skills, to introduce the student to our values and democracy, enable them to cope with everyday problems. Getting to know culture and values of their host country is an important interdisciplinary task for the students of BIK. Attending the BIK the students are better qualified in managing their professional and private lives. In addition they are able to deal with cultural, religious, social, professional and personal differences.

Who are the main target groups and beneficiaries of your measure?

Refugees, asylum seekers, migrants (EU as well as others, independent from their residential status or cultural and religious background)

Which actions have already been implemented and which results have been achieved so far?

Based on experiences taken from pilot classes with refugees, the program was massively expanded during the past three years with the number of classes peaking at around 1.100. The results are: • approximately 1.100 classes ("Berufsintegrationsklassen") with 17.000 students (school year 2017/18) • approximately a third of the graduates of the Berufsintegrationsklassen are taking up an apprenticeship directly after finishing the classes, another third is joining other programs

Which were the main problems and challenges you were/are facing when implementing the project and how did/do you (try to) overcome them?

The main problem was to create a new type of program within our system of vocational schools. Another problem was the coordination of different institutions for example the government of upper Bavaria or Swabia, companies, different types of schools and training providers. In a short period of time a network with the different partners was set up to develop a curriculum which could be used to teach students. Another problem is the question whether the individual student will get a work permit after the BIK. Generally, this uncertainty has a negative impact on the students.

Link to website

<https://www.km.bayern.de/lehrer/meldung/3755/junge-asylbewerber-und-fluechtlinge-koennen-in-ganz-bayern-berufsintegrationsklassen-besuchen.html>

Starting date

2010-09-14

Duration

24 months

Regional scale

3 - big region (Bundesland, Region, Département/Province, Kanton etc.)

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Category 4: Supporting change in the local / ,regional dual education system

After two years in the BIK the students are prepared to start an apprenticeship. The young people are also prepared for their life in a new culture. The compulsory education in Germany supports the dialog for a better understanding of migrants and Germans. Migrants are made aware of the challenges but also of the new possibilities the host country offers for them. The curriculum consists of the following contents: vocational education, language education, values and democracy, mathematics and how to cope with everyday problems. Students are prepared to enter the vocational system after they finish the "BerufsinTEGRATIONSklasse". Teachers, the job agency and all partners involved work together to allow asylum seekers and refugees to make the right career choice after the program. Approximately a third of the graduates of the BerufsinTEGRATIONSklasse are doing an apprenticeship or comparable vocational programs at the moment. This is a successful figure.

Further Information



drilling exercise

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