Adult Education and Guidance Policies in Baden-Württemberg/Germany

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Facts and figures

- One of the 16 German Bundesländer
- 11 million inhabitants
- 28% population with migration background
- Highly industrialised region (Mercedes Benz, Porsche, BOSCH etc.)
- Low unemployment rate 3.8% (June 2023 / national statistics)
- High demand for "skilled" workers
Volkshochschulen (vhs)
Important providers of (general) adult education

• 161 vhs (adult education centres) throughout the region of Baden-Württemberg
• „Semi-public“ providers of adult education, usually linked to municipalities or districts
• Well-known brand in Germany (76 %)
• School buildings are often situated in city centres; in addition, vhs use rooms in other school and public buildings
• Not only for adults, but also for young people, families, specific target groups like immigrants, disadvantaged groups of learners etc.
Education for all …

1.46 million participants

2.62 million lessons per year
School exams – Second chance
- Secondary school
- Abitur (University access)

Work – Profession
- Non-formal VET (e.g. business administration)
- IT training
- Vocational fast-tracks

Languages – Integration
- German for immigrants
- First orientation
- More than 60 languages

Basic skills
- Literacy
- Math

Politics – Society – Environment

Culture – Creativity
- Ceramics etc.
- Music

Health
- Nutrition and cooking
- Sports (e.g. Yoga)

lessons in %
aus der Jahresstatistik 2022
Financing of vhs offers

- Funding of municipalities: 55,229,824 (24.5%)
- Regional funding for second chance education and projects: 9,086,942 (4.0%)
- Participant fees and national funding for courses (e.g., integration classes): 107,370,843 (47.7%)
- Funding of districts: 7,221,154 (3.2%)
- Financing of the Ministry of Education BW: 20,249,687 (9.0%)
- Other sources of financing incl. EU funding: 26,179,075 (11.6%)

Aus der Jahresstatistik 2022
Guidance Policies Baden-Württemberg
Regional Educational and Career Guidance Network
LNWBB – For free, „neutral“, individual
A guidance network of multiple stakeholders

• Network coordinated by vhs BW on behalf of the BW Ministry of Education
• 190 guidance offices, hosted by a large variety of stakeholders:
  – adult education centres (vhs and others)
  – welfare organisations and churches
  – business associations and „chambers“
  – Universities
  – Private training providers / consultants
  – etc.
Why is guidance for adults important?
Role of educational and career guidance in BW

- **Individual guidance**: focuses on the individual interests, competences and the background of a person
- **Objective**: the person *can make* “informed decisions” with regard to individual education pathways
- Guidance - *beyond providing pure information*
- **Counsellor**: actively includes further education offers of all educational institutions in BW (general adult education, vocational further training, scientific further training)
- **Guidance is not result-oriented!**
Standards of guidance in BW
Quality criteria and counsellors‘ profile

LNWBB - Quality criteria and levels of good guidance for further education

LNWBB - Counsellors’ competence profile and training obligations
Financing of LNWBB
Regional funding of BW Ministry of Education available

Financial model: **60 € per guidance hour** (= 60 min.)

Amount of funding currently sufficient for **10,000**
LNWBB - Guidance hours per year
Contact

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