



Network *FLUCHTort Hamburg* –
*Vocational integration for refugees and
asylum-seekers in Hamburg*

Maren Gag

passage Ltd., Hamburg

Context and problems:

- ‚Duldung‘ (toleration): no right to residence – only time-limited suspension of deportation
- Hurdles regarding access to the VET system
- For participation in training (‚dual system‘) you need a work permit – for asylum seekers a work permit is granted subject to restrictions

Success factors:

- Networks are driving forces for including refugees in education and training
- Practitioners in further vocational training and in support to refugees
- Subsystem between formal and non-formal education programmes

VET based on the life situation of refugees and asylum seekers

- Approach for design and development of an education and training concept
- Social support, additional teaching, German as a second language

Arash from Afghanistan 2007:

“The best moment of all was when I got my work permit at the beginning of the year, to work eight hours a day. That was the first time for ten years that I was allowed to do real work. I have kept that document.

My dream was always to become an architect. But when I got the offer to take the training course in reinforced concrete construction, I said “Yes” straight away. The fact that EQUAL secured my right to stay gave me the security that I would not be deported for at least a year. At last a year of opportunity to show what I can do. Now I have the residence permit, and I want to complete my training. I want to make progress, to develop further. That’s why I want to train as a foreman or technical building site manager. Then I can take on responsibility and make decisions myself.”

Implementation and sustainability

- Focus on mainstreaming is important
- (since 2002) Step by step – Indicators:
Change in practice and policy
- (since 2012) Clear change – integration
policy of the city of Hamburg