



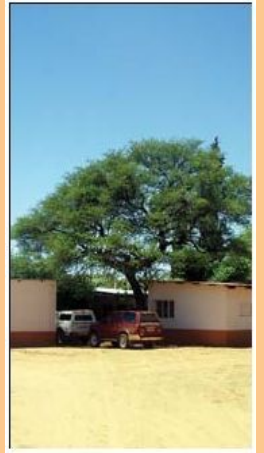
Buschschule Namibia



An African-European platform for
youth welfare and education

A cooperation of the EU and Namibia





*A **child** is not a vessel to be filled
but a **fire** to be lit.*

Francois Rabelais 1494 - 1533



Buschschule Namibia



The Buschschule was founded 12 years ago. It's a platform for individual youth welfare in Namibia.

Our aim is the integration of highly conspicuous children, teenagers and young adults into a positive social reference system.

Participants are looked after in families and working groups (as an individual setting) or small groups. Well-experienced and trained host families are available to provide all-day holistic care in a resource-orientated way. Linguistic standards can be chosen.

The young person's negative energy leading towards estrangement from their social life and society will be turned into a new creative beginning where the participant plays an active part.

A positive approach to life and values as well as the will to learn and achieve are activated by being involved into a transparent and structured daily routine including self-responsibility and taking over duties.

Buschschule Namibia offers both help and cooperation to youth welfare offices and youth welfare services.



When other projects and ways of support are unsuccessful or not being accepted by the young people anymore, Buschschule Namibia is there to help.

Target group

We support adolescents with a tendency to become addicted, avoidance behaviour, orientation towards failure, group incompatibility, reluctance towards school and children's home as well as precaution against juvenile delinquency digression.

Legal bases of accommodation

- contractual agreements follow the different legal bases of the involved European partners
- the Buschschule is officially recognised as renderer of service within the framework of youth welfare organisations in Europe
- Controlled by officially recognised bodies responsible for youth welfare in Germany
- International cooperative agreements between the bodies responsible for youth welfare are in existence





Organisation structure

Registration

Operating licence



The Buschschule...

- is an institutionalised form of support (location project)
- is a charitable institution licensed by the Department of Health and Social Policy in Namibia, No.WO 144
- rests on five pillars of services: the social educational, the pedagogical, the social/medical, the real life and the vocational
- is headed by a board of directors consisting of social education workers, teachers, remedial teachers, physicians and lawyers.
- guarantees an authorised residence permit by the Namibian Home Office

Social educational care (Setting):

The Buschschule offers...

- short-term and long-term projects (e.g. crisis management) and "Endurance"
- a life close to the host families (on farms mostly)
- a structured daily routine; integration into the everyday duties of the family and the farm
- transfer of values, behaviour and appropriate behaviour in conflict situations
- avoiding situations of stimulus satiation and negative peer-groups
- re-orientation in a simple and plain environment
- a close and professional social welfare for the host families and the participants by social education workers and educationists living in Namibia
- host families and qualified personnel working towards objectives; great involvement
- of the families back home into the process of social welfare
- both regular and further training courses for the host families and collaborators
- quality assured system of rendering of service
- quality inspected documentation of achievement





Educational care:

The Buschschole...

- leads to motivation and ability
- supports studying and readiness for education
- offers an authorised education system and professional schooling by our own teachers
- career guidance classes and programmes for occupational competence
- special learning disorder programmes
- flexible schooling and practical tasks for listless and motivationally blocked pupils
- integration in individual courses
- subsidiary individual education
- selective test preparations and assistance leading towards graduation
- adjustments for further educational support
- practice orientated foreign language classes (English and Afrikaans)

Medical care and special service sectors:

The Buschschole offers...

- private health insurance for the participants
- co-operation with physicians, psychologists and therapists of different faculties
- psychiatric and therapeutic attendance where required
- European-standard performance of medical therapy
- therapies will be checked by the medical service of the Buschschole
- a special setting and ADD / ADHD – training programme
- therapeutic therapy and rehabilitation programmes (e.g. for the multiple traumatised)





International youth gathering

The Buschschole meets the requirements for international youth gathering and youth support by realising:

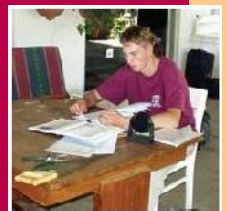
- environmental and animal-protection projects
- music projects
- theatre projects
- art projects
- integration through sport
- inter-cultural meetings; involving the exchange of global points of view and involvement

Inspections / supervision / responsibilities:

The Buschschole works within the framework of the regulation of the Namibian Department of Health and Social Policy. It is regularly validated thereupon by the Department itself, by our own board of directors, by the people who send the participants and by our co-operational partners.

Success rate of the offer of assistance Buschschole Namibia:

- so far 180 participants from Germany, Austria and Switzerland (until June 2004)
- 48 per cent of the teenager could be reintegrated in their family back home
- 89 per cent of the examinees graduated
- potential of violence and delinquency decreased by 70 per cent approx.
- drug-takers quit or at least cut down considerably on their intake
- 80 per cent could readopt into a family system
- 90 per cent are ready to render educational or professional qualifying efforts





"Endurance"

Our short-term project "Endurance" here in Namibia offers the possibility to take a time out, to take one's bearings or to prepare for a new start in life.

Parallel to our overall plan, young individuals are being integrated into various duties of the local community. To see beyond their nose, to discover their own abilities and skills, understand the meaning of life by making experiences are common targets. To take a look at the circumstances of one's life from the outside and to make decisions in perspective will have a calming effect. Those are cultural values that are to be learned like eating and drinking.

The participants are accommodated in families or on-site; close to the places they will be active in.

Jobs and activities from different sectors are offered: car, environmental protection, horticulture, butchery, tourism, kindergarten, dairy farming, media, social work, sports, livestock breeding and many more.

It's easier to understand the overall scheme of things and the responsibilities within a changing society when it hasn't yet come up to the level of complexity of a European performance-oriented society. In this atmosphere, free of severe judgement from the outside, participants have the possibility to define themselves in a pure way. Thus, they can put their own decisions and consequences into action.

New encounters have an effect on the participant. Particular experiences of common interest will make others listen. Turning your eyes away from your own circle and focussing on new subjects will makes you focus and act. Still, it's up to you to cope with your job and to attempt to come to terms with it quickly without the usual fear of failure.

In brushing up or learning languages, discovering new skills, a chance to become aware of yourself, creative coexistence, ironing out incomplete education, taking part in physical activities and music events and the social acknowledgement of your own activities and actions you get a chance to get off the wrong track, to make your own decisions and to put activities into action.



Certificates and written confirmation about the successful participation in the active development of the project will be part of the participants' CV. Both, great willingness to endure and self-motivation, are expected.

Professionally, socially and educationally qualified experts are available to give advice and to guide.

Cooperative partners from the countries of origin prepare the participants and guide them during their active time here in our project. The return and sensible reintegration will be discussed and arranged with our partners based on the new skills acquired.

Summed up, we suggest, arrange and bindingly agree upon subsequent project parameters in order to realize the project:

1. The preparation of the participant in his country of origin Material on film and in written form will be placed at disposal. We organize contact with people in charge or with former participants if requested. Preparation weekends are obligatory before group journeys.
2. The transfer of the young person to Namibia and back:
We organize flight tickets and the transfer to the social work centre. If requested, a flight chaperon will be provided at your own costs.



3. Application of residence permit

In order to gain a residence permit for an African country a complex application procedure has to be carried out and observed. Our organisation will take care of that and be in charge.

4. Integration into families:

According to the preliminary talks participants will be placed with suitable and requested families. Correspondence in lifestyle, hobbies, alignment, religion as well as career plans and –experiences will especially be paid attention to. Projects including different emphases such as technology, agriculture, citrus farming, cattle breeding, hunting and environmental protection, tourism, fishing, hotel and hospitality industry, painting, carpentry, bricklaying, tiler, electrician and pipe fitter are available.

5. Integration into groups:

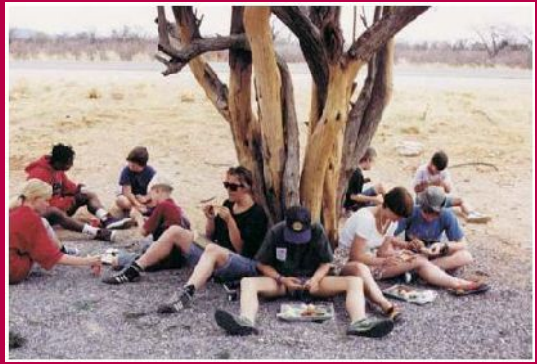
If requested, participants can be introduced to a specific reference group. Sports, drama, music or other predilections will be encouraged in particular. We cooperate with numerous organisations that take care of both social and health support of the local population. Our participants are encouraged to embrace this reality and to support and help.

6. Practical training or previous education:

Each stay is supposed to serve to both willingness of performance and realization of skills. Those parameters shall be encouraged and trained further. Ideally, an employment in order to gain work experience can be offered.

7. Improving your willingness to learn:

A non-working educational policy leads to an incomplete education of many young people. Our youth has to suffer from that without knowing the reason. We supply that need and fill that gap. Above all, general knowledge, foreign languages and basics maths are of great importance.



8. Therapeutic offers, anti-violence training programme

Young participants who tend to have uncontrollable eruptions of violence will be introduced to an anti-violence training programme. Once there, the violent person will be confronted with his actions and then made to discerningly analyse his encroachments.

9. Integration into sports and cultural facilities

There are many activities one can choose from aiming at motivation and a purpose. At the end of each course a certificate of time and success will be handed over.

10. Learning foreign languages and getting to know new communities

The confrontation with a new community is designed to encourage the participant's tolerance, acceptance and willingness to integrate. Taking over local languages goes hand in hand with entering the partner country's mentality.

11. Regular reporting, contacts and information for relatives

Communication will be kept to by telephone, e-mail and personal contact within the realms of agreement. It's elementary for close relatives, real friends, supporters and officially entrusted people to share in. That's why each project site offers and is able to keep up communication. The country of origin's responsible person in charge are obliged to support the involved person's contacts and rights of communication.

12. Further arrangements and integration into our European networks.

After a successful development we can suggest further ways to arrange help, if requested. There's a network of potential schooling, pre-education and education so any participant can be integrated according to his individual abilities. For this purpose, coordination in Europe places individual scheduling and the means of realization at the participant's disposal.



Some examples:

1. Fritz, once a jolly lad, finishes school. Frustrated by not finding an apprenticeship he lapses into a peer group that indulges in idleness and booze. The return to normality seems endangered. His youth welfare worker arranges a stay in the project "Endurance". He decides to spend the time of emptiness and decisions distanced from his mates. In Ojiwarongo, in northern Namibia, he's welcomed warmly by a family that works in the butchery trade. Now it's his duty to transport the cattle, keep an eye on the butchery process, take over transports on his own after a short time and to observe the rules of hygiene. Sometimes, he and the butcher even go hunting for venison to fulfil special customer requests.

2. Even at the age of 14 Tina made a bad impression by taking her parents' and her relatives' cars for a spin. The inevitable contact with police and authority lead to the usual thing: Nobody had confidence in her anymore. Her two friends just found that cool and whacky.

She couldn't find support in anyone. Cracked up and being faced with jail she decided to take part in the project "Endurance". Authorities and project direction quickly agreed. A gamekeeper's farm tending lions, cheetahs and other animals was looking for an assistant.

Tina was integrated successfully. She and an experienced local took on the feeding of the animals. She learned to drive and repair the Landrover and was in charge of different jobs. In the meantime, she brushed up her English and improved her knowledge of biology. She started to learn Afrikaans, too. She gets on well with her colleagues; no signs of homesickness. The urge for challenges and experiences is satisfied. Future plans are made.



3. Ulf made himself conspicuous as a thug when he was young. He dominated the children next door and nobody was safe when he was around. Craftier kids even made him gang leader to fight rival groups. In the evening, he and his mates met in a basement where they boozed and sang obscene Nazi songs. He didn't give a damn about official life.

After a number of trials for bodily harm and theft it was time to make a change. Controlled by his ringleader Ulf couldn't get out of the vicious circle. The "Endurance" project found a family for Ulf. In his new home by the coast of Namibia, Ulf started to work in a garage and a recovery service. He enjoyed repairing the exhausts and taking driving lessons in the desert. He also liked the night time duties of recovering crashed cars from the desert roads.

His strength was needed and he was proud he could help. During many drives the host father explained the country and the way of the people to him. Plus, how we can learn from each other. He told him about the time he spent as a boy scout and the tests he had to take before them in the desert. Ulf listened closely and you could feel him having these experiences in his mind's eye at the same time.

The next day Ulf was picked up by some boys to play football. He really enjoyed it since he hadn't played for a long time since nobody accepted him anymore and he had a bad reputation back home. Here it was different; here he could make a new start.



To bring up a child sensible
you need whole a village

African wisdom



Further Information under:

www.buschschule.de

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