

Second ASA Seminar



The second ASA Seminar took place at Werftphul close to Berlin at the seminar house called “Kurt Löwenstein” from the 10th to 15th of June 2014. About 60 participants from Germany and from different African countries were brought together for the second time. This Seminar, called “Africangroup”, was especially for participants who will all complete their projects in African countries and for the African participants who are in Germany.

During the five seminar days there were plenty of opportunities exchanging information about the different projects and how far the different projects came with planning so far.

After the arrival on the first day on the 10rd of April was a “Welcome- Meeting”. It started with some little games to get a nice atmosphere. Afterward the daily schedule for the following days were introduced.

The ASA Seminar started usually at 9 a.m. with a plenary session in which all participants joined. Each day started with a different topic.

On one Morning, for example, the topic was gender and sexism. Therefore former ASA Participants came to give an introduction and definitions of the different parts of this maintopic.

Later there were various workshops offered to the topic. All workshops included different ways of (würde das different ways weglassen) “learning- methods”. One workshop was based on theater technique “living pictures” and gave women the opportunity to show situations in which they felt treated wrong because of their gender. Another one, which was gender mixed, gave the opportunity to discuss about own experience in live, where gender influenced the situation or decisions.

One of the highlights of this seminar was the “Asylum Monologues” Theater on Friday evening. The actors presented monologues from refugees, based on interviews, which they did before. This were the real stories of refugees, who came from different countries and of

different reasons to Germany. They showed their experience on their difficult try to get an permission to stay in Germany. It was for everyone a really touching performance and leded immediately afterward to many questions and discussions. Therefore thank ASA and the actors of the "Asylum Monologues" giving us the opportunity to see such an amazing opportunity to have a closer look at the life of refugees here in Germany.

There were also sessions divided into tutorial groups up to about 10 persons. The group with the HITAparticipans were the smallest group. Therefore we joined two other tutorial groups, one north- south group and a group with BASIC- ASA participants. During these tutorial groups with our tutor Tilman we got some time to discuss topics of our own project and also get to know the project of the others. This was great opportunity to exchange the experience on the projects and also see if there the same challenges and how other handle these. Additional the topics of the morning plenary sessions were discussed in depth.

On Friday the "participants day" took place the whole day. It gave the participants the chance to create workshops which they are interested in or in fields they were experienced or have special knowledge. There were many different workshops about all kind of topics, for example about "prejudice" or tropical diseases, but also in skateboarding or painting clothes. Everyone was free to choose the workshop, he wants and as many as he want.

On Sunday around lunchtime the seminar officially ended. It was a weird feeling to say good bye to everyone, knowing that most of them you won't see again.

The last ASA- Seminar will take place on two different days in either January or March 2015. All participants also from the other country- groups (Latinamerika, Asia...) will participate at this seminar.