

young adultllt



POLICY MAPPING AND REVIEW

'Keep at it' – *Bleib dran*

DE-B-1

The project **YOUNG_ADULLLT (YA)** focuses on lifelong learning (LLL) policies for young adults that address young people, in particular those in situations of near social exclusion. YA enquires into the specific embeddedness of these policies in different regions across the European Union. The point of departure is the assumption that it is by looking into the specific regional and local contexts that policies are best understood and assessed. The project aims both at providing a systematic overview over the highly heterogeneous policies across the participating countries *and* at yielding new knowledge about the specific local/regional forms of embedding LLL policies in the regional economy, the labour market, the education/training systems and the individual life projects of young adults.

On the basis of these conceptual considerations, the project partners selected two regions per country, which were identified as 'contrasting cases' with regard to socioeconomic indicators and/or labour markets and/or infrastructure. The adjacent map shows the selected 18 regions in the nine participating countries of the research project, in which the project partners mapped LLL policies in the education, labour and youth & social policy sectors.

The LLL policy *Bleib dran*, which focuses on young adults at risk of becoming NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training), is located in Bremen in Northern Germany and represents one exemplary LLL policy of the 183 LLL policies mapped and analysed across Europe.

While this **policy brief** provides descriptive key data on the policy *Bleib dran*, the research project YA critically examines the embeddedness and functioning of the policy in its local/regional context and analyses its impact and implications on the life courses of young adults.



'Keep at it' – What is it about?



The challenge on site

Drop-outs have always been an issue in the Bremen region. The number of dropouts has been relatively stable during the past decades, ranging between 20-25%, although half of the young adults continue their apprenticeships in different companies. Apart from bankruptcy of companies and/or the relocation of companies to other cities, one of the main reasons for dropping out are personal problems and conflicts with trainers carrying out the in-company training.

Who is the addressee of this policy?

Since 1999, the LLL policy *Bleib dran* has supported young adults during their apprenticeships to stay in and finish their vocational education in the German dual system, which usually lasts three or three and a half years. The timeframe of the project is rather long-term as it is designed as an on-going intervention to stabilise and to ensure the success of apprenticeships.

What is the policy aiming at?



Ausbildung –
Bleib dran

- **The policy is based in an apprenticeship system**, which is a hybrid between the labour market and the educational sector and focuses on the school sector of the dual system. The main objectives of the project are to reduce the number of Early School Leavers (ESL) and youth unemployment and to solve arising problems in apprenticeships (continuing the apprenticeship at the same company or switching to another one).
- **The project *Bleib dran* in the region of Bremen is a combination of an educational and labour market policy**, but it is more oriented towards the education policy sector as VET (Vocational education and training) is part of the educational system.
- **The project covers a broad range of the dual education system** from craft-based trades to catering and logistics (the domains with the highest dropout rates) in Bremen and Bremerhaven.
- **Although the target group of this policy are apprentices** (young adults at risk of becoming NEETs, i.e. Not in Education, Employment, or Training), the group 'in need' is not constructed via pre-defined categories, but according to the perceived individual troubles experienced by young adults during their apprenticeship.

How does it work?



Ausbildung –
Bleib dran

- **Guidance and counselling for apprentices** as well as for in-company trainers or VET school teachers are offered by a small group of mediators to solve conflicts before they eventually result in dropouts. These mediators are available on-site a few hours per week at each of the various VET schools in the Bremen region.
- **The mediators spend time at various VET schools** during their regular contact time (usually two to three hours per school per week). Yet, they are not an inherent part of the institutionalised VET system. Instead, the whole program is based on projects that need to re-apply for funding each year.
- **The primary actors of the project**, which is jointly co-funded by the *Land* Bremen, the Bremen Chamber of Employees and the ESF, are university employees carrying out the mediation between apprentices and their trainers as well as teachers, trainers, VET researchers, representatives from companies, unions, and politicians who form a network that is offering teaching material for trainers and VET teachers.
- **This multi-actor network** co-operates closely in order to detect possible problems as early as possible during apprenticeships (usually they meet four to six times each year). Therefore, it presents a well-coordinated LLL policy, which effectively joins forces from the educational and labour market policy sector to support young adults.

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- For more information on the LLL policy *Bleib dran*, please consult: www.uni-bremen.de/zap/coaching/ausbildung-bleib-dran
- For further information and reading on the LLL policies mapped and analysed in the Young_Adullt project, please consult the YA project website under: www.young-adullt.eu
- This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 693167 (YOUNG_ADULLLT)
- PROJECT NAME: Policies Supporting Young People in their Life Course. A Comparative Perspective of Lifelong Learning and Inclusion in Education and Work in Europe (YOUNG_ADULLLT)
- COORDINATOR: Prof. Dr. Marcelo Parreira do Amaral · parreira@uni-muenster.de · University of Münster (WWU) · Münster, Germany



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POLICY MAPPING AND REVIEW

'Strengthening Youth' – *Jugend stärken*

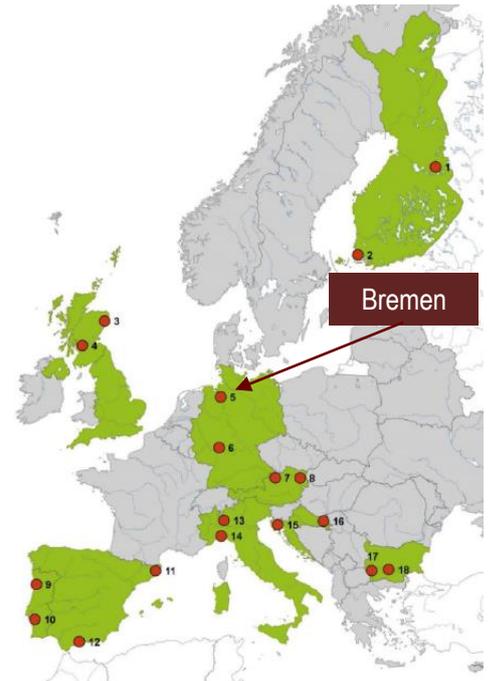
DE-B-2

The project **YOUNG_ADULLLT (YA)** focuses on lifelong learning (LLL) policies for young adults that address young people, in particular those in situations of near social exclusion. YA enquires into the specific embeddedness of these policies in different regions across the European Union. The point of departure is the assumption that it is by looking into the specific regional and local contexts that policies are best understood and assessed. The project aims both at providing a systematic overview over the highly heterogeneous policies across the participating countries *and* at yielding new knowledge about the specific local/regional forms of embedding LLL policies in the regional economy, the labour market, the education/training systems and the individual life projects of young adults.

On the basis of these conceptual considerations, the project partners selected two regions per country, which were identified as 'contrasting cases' with regard to socioeconomic indicators and/or labour markets and/or infrastructure. The adjacent map shows the selected 18 regions in the nine participating countries of the research project, in which the project partners mapped LLL policies in the education, labour and youth & social policy sectors.

The LLL policy *Strengthening Youth*, which focuses on integrating disadvantaged YA into the labour market who have already dropped out of the system, is located Bremen in Northern Germany. It represents one exemplary LLL policy of the 183 LLL policies, which were mapped and analysed across Europe.

While this **policy brief** provides descriptive key data on the policy *Strengthening Youth*, the research project YA critically examines the embeddedness and functioning of the policy in its local/regional context and analyses its impact and implications on the life courses of young adults.



Strengthening Youth – What is it about?

The challenge on site

Dropouts have always been an issue in the Bremen region. The number of drop-outs has been relatively stable during the past decades, ranging between 20-25%, although half of the drop-outs continue their apprenticeships in different companies. Apart from bankruptcy of companies and/or the relocation of companies to other cities, some of the main reasons for dropping out are personal problems and conflicts with trainers carrying out the in-company training.

Who is the addressee of this policy?

Since 2015, the LLL policy *Strengthening Youth* follows the national goal of the Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Ministry for Family, Elderly, Women and Youth) to integrate young adults from disadvantaged neighbourhoods into the labour market or into the school system. The policy is directed at counselling youth and young adults between 18 and 24 who are in the transition phase from school to work, who find themselves in difficult (un)employment situations, and have special needs.

What is the policy aiming at?

- **Strengthening Youth takes place in different areas of FR Bremen** and its aim is to get into contact with those young adults who cannot be reached via formal institutionalised measures.
- **The policy is a combination of youth and social policies**, but it also contains some elements of labour market and educational policies as issues of employability and school attendance are also addressed.
- **An important feature of this policy** is the linkage between general youth and social policies and support of disadvantaged areas in the FR Bremen. Therefore, communities have to apply for funding and introduce future projects that have already been pre-evaluated in terms of their feasibility and cost-effectiveness.
- **The policy is mainly directed at young adults who are in the transition phase from school to work.** Therefore, the support from the institutions involved in this pilot project manifests itself in the form of help in finding apprenticeship positions, internships, career orientation and school integration. Family, financial, legal, and health matters also are addressed if explicitly requested by the young adults.

How does it work?

- **From an organisational point of view**, Strengthening Youth co-operates with different institutions in order to effectively address the challenges, such as unemployment and recognition of their capabilities, that young adults are facing in everyday life.
- **The primary actors of the project**, which is co-funded by the ESF, the *Land* Bremen, and different German Ministries running until the end of 2018, are street workers employed by well-established public agencies and independent education providers in the region. The project operates in different areas of the FR Bremen.
- **The policy allows street workers to reach out to those young adults** who are not optimally supported by the policies of the regular system by means of low-threshold counselling, case management, and clearing.
- **The one-to-one guidance takes place few hours** a week, either at the respective institution (involved in the project) or in places frequented by young adults, such as youth consultation offices.
- **As the offers carried out by street workers are low-threshold**, the participation of young adults in the policy is not mandatory, and they engage on a voluntary basis.

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- For more information on the LLL policy Strengthening Youth, please consult: <http://www.jugend-staerken.de/>
- For further information and reading on the LLL policies mapped and analysed in the Young_Adullt project, please consult the YA project website under: www.young-adullt.eu
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POLICY MAPPING AND REVIEW

Werkshule

DE-B-3

The project **YOUNG_ADULLLT (YA)** focuses on lifelong learning (LLL) policies for young adults that address young people, in particular those in situations of near social exclusion. YA enquires into the specific embeddedness of these policies in different regions across the European Union. The point of departure is the assumption that it is by looking into the specific regional and local contexts that policies are best understood and assessed. The project aims both at providing a systematic overview over the highly heterogeneous policies across the participating countries *and* at yielding new knowledge about the specific local/regional forms of embedding LLL policies in the regional economy, the labour market, the education/training systems and the individual life projects of young adults.

On the basis of these conceptual considerations, the project partners selected two regions per country, which were identified as 'contrasting cases' with regard to socioeconomic indicators and/or labour markets and/or infrastructure. The adjacent map shows the selected 18 regions in the nine participating countries of the research project, in which the project partners mapped LLL policies in the education, labour and youth & social policy sectors.

The LLL policy *Werkshule* focuses on young adults at risk of becoming NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) and is located in Bremen, Northern Germany. It represents one exemplary LLL policy of the 183 LLL policies mapped and analysed across Europe.

While this **policy brief** provides descriptive key data on the policy *Werkshule*, the research project YA critically examines the embeddedness and functioning of the policy in its local/regional context and analyses its impact and implications on the life courses of young adults.



The *Werkshule* – What is it about?

The challenge on site

Dropouts have always been an issue in the region Bremen. The number of drop-outs has been relatively stable during the past decades, ranging between 20-25%, although half of the drop-outs continue their apprenticeships in different companies. Apart from bankruptcy of companies and/or the relocation of companies to other cities etc., some of the main reasons for dropping out are personal problems and conflicts with trainers on-site.

Who is the addressee of this policy?

Since 2009, the LLL policy *Werkshule* follows the central goals of the school curriculum of Bremen, which focuses on the development of the students' skills and knowledge. It supports young adults who have completed grade 8 of the secondary school education. Most of them are diagnosed with a specific form of a *Lernbenachteiligung* ('disadvantages in terms of learning') - an umbrella term encompassing all kinds of difficulties.

What is the policy aiming at?

- **The policy was conceived for those students** having trouble with theoretical learning (while also requiring more time for learning) and favouring a more practical experience when trying to find a job.
- **Werkshule is mainly oriented towards the education policy sector.** It is localised at the VET (Vocational education and training) schools and its aim is to enable transfer into the VET system for disadvantaged youth.
- **This project in the region of Bremen is a combination of an educational and labour market policy**, but it is more oriented towards the education policy sector since 2012. This year, the *Werkshule* became an inherent part of the formal education system by turning into an officially recognized secondary school type in the state of Bremen
- **Since 2012, the policy makers secured the existence of the *Werkshule* mainly in financial and organisational terms.** This also had a concrete impact on the continuity of the policy and its establishment, because it increased the fit between the school curricula and the regional regulations and thus the opportunity for an improved cooperation between the actors from different social and labour policies.

How does it work?

- **From an organisational point of view**, the *Werkshule* guarantees the collaboration of different professionals who, until the present day, work together on behalf of the young adults.
- **The primary actors of the project**, which was initially co-funded by the *Land* Bremen and the ESF, are teachers, social pedagogues, and so-called Lehrmeister (master craftsman with some additional pedagogical qualification), who worked closely together as one team in order to support the pupils in their everyday activities.
- **The policy allows teachers to work more individually with the students**, as class sizes are comparatively small (16 students/class at the *Werkshule* compared to 23 or more in regular secondary schools) and the school curriculum oriented towards practice is heavily project-based.
- **The work carried out** aims at tangible products, which are often sold at (local) markets and can facilitate an internship for the students for a period of three to six weeks offered by a company on an annual basis.
- **The students receive a school-leaving qualification (Berufsbildungsreife)**, which will improve their chances of entering a vocational training.

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- For more information on the LLL policy The *Werkshule*, please consult: www.bildung.bremen.de/werkshule-3762
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