

Youth Partnership

Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of youth



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

INFORMATION TEMPLATE

ON

SOCIAL INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

IN GERMANY



Last updated: 13.11.2013
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The socio-economic situation of young people

Please inform which groups of the young people are perceived as being socially excluded.

What are the main factors for being socially excluded as a young person in your country?

- young people with an immigrant background – especially if they are lacking language skills
- young people with poor educational achievements
- young people with disabilities – especially severe disabilities

Please provide the percentage representing the share of young people (18-24) who are at risk of poverty (and/or severely materially deprived and/or living in a household with very low work intensity).

2011: 24.2 % of the total population of young people between 18 and 24 years/ male and female)

Source: Eurostat: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/setupModifyTableLayout.do>

Youth unemployment ratio in Germany:

Number of 'the young unemployed' (15-24) (indicators based on ILO standards)

Male: 8.8 % (2/2013)

Female: 7.3 % (2/2013)

Average: 8.1 % (2/2013)

<https://www-genesis.destatis.de/genesis/online/link/tabelleErgebnis/12211-0002>

https://www-genesis.destatis.de/genesis/online/data;jsessionid=0D0B137D7644D11C2E9AEC698434C495.to_mcat_GO_2_2?operation=abruftabelleBearbeiten&levelindex=2&levelid=1365662405947&auswahloperation=abruftabelleAuspraegungAuswaehlen&auswahlverzeichnis=ordnungsstruktur&auswahlziel=werteabruf&selectionname=13231-0003&auswahltext=&werteabruf=starten

Please compare it to the general population risk of poverty rate. What is the trend in your country – is the rate growing etc.?

General population risk of poverty rate:

2008: 20.1 %

2009: 20 %

2010: 19.7 %

2011: 19.9 %

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database?_piref458_1209540_458_211810_211810.node_code=t2020_50

Has an impact of the current financial crisis on young people been observed in your country?

Germany is one of the few countries whose unemployment rate did not rise during the recent economic crisis and whose population of young people who were neither employed nor in education or training (NEET) decreased.

In fact, unemployment rates for German workers at all levels of educational attainment fell between 2008 and 2011. Across OECD countries, unemployment rates among adults who had not attained an upper secondary education rose, on average, from 8.8 % to 12.6 % during that period; in Germany, they fell from 16.5 % to 13.9 %, although they remained relatively high.

Some 11 % of young people in Germany were neither employed nor in education or training (NEET) in 2011 (12 % in 2008), compared with the OECD average of 16 % (14 % in 2008). Only in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Turkey did the population of NEETs fall or remain stable during the global recession. Some 6 % of all NEETs do not participate in the labour force; 4.6 % are unemployed. Similar to many OECD countries, more than half of those unemployed have been so for more than six months. The incidence of long-term unemployment among the population of NEET is higher in Germany than in most other countries with relatively small proportions of NEETs, namely Austria, Switzerland and the Scandinavian countries.

Source: OECD Country note Germany 2013,
http://www.oecd.org/berlin/EAG2013_Country%20note_Deutschland.pdf

1. Policy measures for young people at risk of social exclusion

1.1. Social subsistence/ protection and health cover for young people living in poverty

Since 2011, in addition to other family benefits received to support their livelihoods, families who are eligible for social protection payments also receive supplementary benefits for their children: these benefits help ensure children reach appropriate educational standards and also help prevent social exclusion. The benefits include, for example, expenses for school lunches, learning support, participation in sports clubs and music lessons.

National Reform Programme 2012:
http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/nd/nrp2012_germany_en.pdf, p. 40.

RKI, Langzeitstudie zur Gesundheit von Kindern und Jugendlichen in Deutschland, Ergebnisse 2013: <http://www.kiggs-studie.de/>

Basic security benefits for job-seekers (Unemployment Benefit II/Social Benefit, Grundsicherung für Arbeitsuchende)

Basic security benefits for job-seekers (Grundsicherung für Arbeitsuchende) under Book II of the Social Code (SGB II) is a tax-funded system designed to provide people who are capable of earning with full and rapid help and support to help themselves.

The benefits are mainly geared towards integration into employment. Anyone who is unable to find work despite making a full effort to seek a job or who does not earn enough from their employment to live from, and is in need of assistance, has a legal entitlement to unemployment benefit II, which is also grantable as an income supplement or top-up.

Basic security benefits for job-seekers are assessed on a household basis. This means that social benefit (Sozialgeld) is payable to any individuals (i.e. children) in need of assistance who are not capable of earning but live in a joint household with someone who is capable of earning and is entitled to assistance.

Young people's entitlement to basic security benefits for job-seekers

Young people aged under 25 receive special support to give them the best chances of entering the labour market. Anyone under 25 who applies for unemployment benefit II has a right to be placed without delay in an apprenticeship, a job, a training course, or vocational training.

Provided that they are in need of assistance, young people over 15 who are capable of earning receive unemployment benefit II by way of assistance towards living expenses. In determining whether a young person is capable of earning (see above), what matters is that they are theoretically able to take up gainful employment – it does not matter if there are circumstances preventing them from doing so, such as having to attend school.

Integration assistance

A range of services are available to provide (re)integration assistance in the search for employment or training:

- Placement guidance and assistance provided via the placement budget
- Measures to activate and secure integration into the jobs market
- Support in taking up further education and training, including repeating the lower secondary leaving school leaving exam (Hauptschule)
- Assistance to promote participation in the job market
- Assistance for employers

- Support to help employed persons take up further education and training
- Careers and training guidance
- Community integration support (such as childcare services, substance abuse and debt advisory services)
- Integration benefit
- Assistance in taking up self-employment
- Opportunities to work
- Support to foster employment relations

More information about social security benefits, p. 29-33, http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile

Social assistance (Sozialhilfe)

Social assistance provides a last safety net to protect people from poverty, social exclusion and hardship; it helps individuals and households who are unable and lack the resources to meet their own needs and have insufficient entitlement under other insurance and welfare systems that come before it.

Aims of the new legislation and principles underlying social assistance

Social assistance is provided so that everyone entitled to it can live in human dignity. This objective is enshrined in the opening words of SGB XII. Where income and savings fall short, social assistance covers the human minimum needed to maintain a socially acceptable living standard. It also aims to compensate as necessary for other impediments such as disabilities, need of nursing care or other exceptional social difficulties so that people can take part in community life as fully as possible.

Types of social assistance

In its new form, social assistance covers:

- Assistance towards living expenses (SGB II, Sections 27-40)
- Needs-based pension supplement in old age and in the event of reduced earning capacity (Sections 41-46)
- Assistance towards healthcare (Sections 47-52)
- Integration assistance for disabled persons (Sections 53-60)
- Assistance towards nursing care (Sections 61-66),
- Assistance in overcoming special social difficulties (Sections 67-69)
- Assistance in other circumstances (Sections 70-74)

Each of these is provided together with advice and support as necessary.

Example:

The new education package (assistance for education and participation) for pupils attending general education or vocational schools includes:

- Costs of one-day school/daycare centre outings
- Assistance for multiple-day school trips
- Assistance for personal school supplies (€70 for the first and €30 for the second half of the school year) □
- Costs of pupils' transportation to/from school, where necessary and if not already met from other sources
- Assistance for learning support in specific circumstances
- Additional costs of communal school meals
- Monthly budget of €10 for participation in social life

The assistance for participation in the social and cultural life of the community naturally also applies on a supplementary basis for people with disabilities, as part of integration assistance.

For further and more detailed information please check the following document:

http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile, p. 111-116

1.2. Measures to meeting the medical Care needs of Young people at risk of social exclusion

Social assistance and health care (Sozialhilfe)

Assistance towards healthcare covers the same entitlements as those for statutory health insurance. This means that social assistance recipients without health insurance receive the same health care provision as those who pay into the statutory health insurance fund. The statutory health insurance funds assume the costs of medical treatment for non-insured recipients of social assistance and are then reimbursed.

Source: http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile, p. 115

Basic security benefits for job-seekers and Social security contributions (Grundsicherung für Arbeitsuchende)

Unless already insured through another family member and unless they are privately insured, individuals capable of earning and entitled to assistance are compulsorily insured in the statutory

health insurance and social long-term care insurance schemes. Privately insured individuals entitled to assistance receive a subsidy towards insurance contributions. Recipients of social benefit are generally covered by family health and long-term care insurance.

Source: http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile, p. 42.

For anyone in receipt of regular assistance provided under Chapter 3, 4, 6 or 7 of Book XII of the Social Code (SGB XII) since 1 April 2007 or before, the social assistance agency that provides that assistance will also provide assistance in the event of illness. Under section 264 of SGB V, the medical treatment is generally paid for by a statutory health insurance fund and then refunded by the social assistance agency. The continued responsibility of social assistance agencies for such recipients of social assistance in the event of illness after 1 April 2007 is expressly laid down in section 5 (8a) of SGB V. It is unaffected by an interruption in entitlement to the regular social assistance of less than one month, irrespective of whether the social assistance agency deregisters a person from the procedure under section 264 of SGB V – the sole requirement is that the person was in receipt of regular assistance provided under Chapter 3, 4, 6 or 7 of SGB XII and remained in receipt of that assistance without an interruption in excess of one month.

Children and young people under the age of 18 are exempt from patients' contributions except in the case of dentures and travel expenses.

http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile, p. 75+76.

Strategy of the Federal Government on the promotion of children's health (2008):

Fields of action:

- To develop prevention and the promotion of children's health
- To foster equal opportunities concerning children's health
- To minimize health risk
- To monitor the situation, to research basic principles and to determine risk and protective factors

Source: <http://www.bmg.bund.de/praevention/kindergesundheit/kindergesundheit.html> (in German)

1.3. Measures to re-engage the young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)

Strengthening youth (JUGEND STÄRKEN):

With matched components, this initiative promotes the school, occupational and social integration of underprivileged young people and young immigrants (Section 13 of Book VIII of the Social Code). It consists of the four ESF programmes, Schulverweigerung – Die 2. Chance (A second chance for truants), Kompetenzagenturen (Competency agencies), 'Aktiv in der Region' (Getting involved in the region) and Jugendmigrationsdienste (Youth Migration Services) financed from national funds. At a total of some 800 locations, local actors at the interfaces of school, vocational training, the labour market, youth welfare and business and industry are assisted in setting up networks to integrate young people with fewer chances in life. <http://www.jugend-staerken.de/> (in German)

Vocational Qualification Prospects (Perspektive Berufsabschluss):

The aim of the structural programme "Vocational Qualification Prospects" with its 97 funded regional projects is to provide specific support for young adults who need it and who struggle on their way to a vocational qualification. The programme contributes to better aligning the many existing funding schemes and support services in the individual regions to actual requirements and to interlinking them with each other. These networks are formed within two different funding initiatives: in "Regional Transition Management" and in "Certificate-Oriented Modular Training". Our target groups, young people making the transition from school to vocational training and semi- or unskilled young adults. Funding is provided by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research from federal funds and by the European Union and from the European Social Fund with approximately 67 Mio. € from 2008 to 2013.

More information: in English http://www.perspektive-berufsabschluss.de/downloads/Downloads_Programm/BMBF_PBA_FLYER_ALLG_E_110610.pdf

In German: <http://www.perspektive-berufsabschluss.de/de/215.php>

1.4. Measures to ensure access to decent housing for young people at risk of social exclusion

Housing benefit (Wohngeld)

Housing benefit is an allowance that the state grants to help cover the cost of housing. Tenants as well as homeowners can receive housing benefit if their rent or mortgage payments exceed their financial means. It does not matter whether your home is old or new, or whether it was built with the help of government subsidies or tax concessions or was entirely privately financed.

Housing benefit is not granted to recipients of:

- Unemployment Benefit II and social benefit (Sozialgeld) under Book Two of the Social Code (SGB II)
- Assistance provided under Section 22 (7) of SGB II
- Transitional allowance equal in amount to unemployment benefit II under the first sentence of Section 21 (4) of SGB XI
- Injury benefit equal in amount to unemployment benefit II under Section 47 (2) of SGB VII
- Needs-based pension supplement in old age and in the event of reduced earning capacity under SGB XII
- Assistance towards living expenses under SGB XII
- Supplementary assistance towards living expenses and other assistance in a facility under the Federal War Victims Relief Act (Bundesversorgungsgesetz) or other legislation under which that act applies
- Assistance in special cases and basic assistance under the Asylum Seekers Assistance Act (Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz)
- Assistance under SGB VIII in households consisting solely of recipients of such assistance and their dependants taken into consideration in its assessment where the costs of accommodation are included

Source: http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile p. 117, 118

Assisted living for teenage mothers

They are different stakeholders or private institutions that offer assisted living for children/young women who are pregnant or who already have a baby. Teenage mothers who have problems of any kind (i.e. parenthood, boyfriend, school leavers, vocational training), can live in these foyers and are supported in raising the child and finding their way back to school, in a vocational training or simply back to life. There are also offers for young mothers and fathers (16-27 years) who have mental illnesses.

The following links are examples of assisted living for teenage mothers (in German):

- <http://www.diebarke.de/>
- http://www.jugendserver-hamburg.de/?RUB_ID=19&NAV_ID=356
- <http://erziehungshilfen-bonn.de/de/bonn/Spezialloesungen/Mutter-Kind-Gruppe/massnahme/detail-infos-45/Zentrum-fuer-junge-Muetter-und-Kinder.htm>

- <http://www.lv-rlp.drk.de/angebote/kinder-jugend-und-familie/la-casita-hilfen-fuer-junge-muetter-und-vaeter.html> (offer for young mothers and fathers (16-27years) who have mental illnesses)

Foyers for young people at risk of social exclusion (Jugendwohnen/Jugendwohnprojekte)

The young people living in Foyers are between 16 and 25 years old. They stay in the Foyers for different reasons, on one hand to complete their apprenticeship or vocational training and on the other hand, the young people can't live anymore at home or have no homes. Depending on the reason why they live in Foyers, they stay from several weeks up to three years. Foyers assist them by organizing their life and help by problems in the personal or professional surrounding. This starts by helping to organise their life's and assist the young people by searching for a job and have enough staying power to succeed the vocational training or the apprenticeship.

Examples for different kinds of foyers:

- Fachverband betreutes Jugendwohnen e.V. is the umbrella organisation of 20 stakeholders with approximately 500 places in 80 Foyers: http://www.jugendwohnplatz.de/fach_verband.htm
- Verband der Kolpinghäuser e.V. is the Umbrella organisation of Kolping Foyers and Kolping houses in Germany. They represent about 35 Foyers with more than 4,000 places, which are used during a year by 15,000 young people. <http://www.kolpinghaeuser.de/baukasten/vkh/kolpinghaeuser/vkh-projekte/projekt-jugendwohnen.html> (in German)
- Christliches Jugenddorfwerk Deutschlands e.V.: <http://www.cjd.de/zentrale/pages/index/p/2354/0>

Assisted living for teenage mothers or young mothers and fathers with mental illnesses

They are different stakeholders or private institutions that offer assisted living for children/young women who are pregnant or who already have a baby. Teenage mothers who have problems of any kind (i.e. parenthood, boyfriend, school leavers, vocational training), can live in these foyers and are supported in raising the child and finding their way back to school, in a vocational training or simply back to life. There are also offers for young mothers and fathers (16-27years) who have mental illnesses.

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- <http://erziehungshilfen-bonn.de/de/bonn/Spezialloesungen/Mutter-Kind-Gruppe/massnahme/detail-infos-45/Zentrum-fuer-junge-Muetter-und-Kinder.htm>

- <http://www.lv-rlp.drk.de/angebote/kinder-jugend-und-familie/la-casita-hilfen-fuer-junge-muetter-und-vaeter.html> (offer for young mothers and fathers (16-27years) who have mental illnesses)

Federal foundation mother and child

The Foundation's funds are granted e. g. to provide the first needs of the child, the continuation of the household, the apartment and arrangements, as well as the caretaking of the child. The grants are not credited to Arbeitslosengeld II, social welfare (Sozialhilfe) or other kinds of social benefits. The amount and duration of the benefits depend on your personal circumstances and also on the total number of applicants in emergency situations. The Federal Foundation justifies no legal claims.

About 150,000 pregnant women in emergency situations are being supported through the Federal Foundation in a non-bureaucratic way every year to unburden the continuation of the pregnancy and the caretaking of the child.

More information: <http://www.bmfsfj.de/RedaktionBMFSFJ/Broschuerenstelle/Pdf-Anlagen/infoblatt-mutter-und-kind-englisch,property=pdf,bereich=bmfsfj,sprache=de,rwb=true.pdf> (in English); www.bundesstiftung-mutter-und-kind.de (in German)

1.5. Measures addressing the social integration of young people with disabilities

Rehabilitation and integration of people with disabilities

Book IX of the Social Code – Integration and Rehabilitation of Disabled People – came into force on 1 July 2001. The focus is no longer exclusively on caring and providing for people who are disabled or at risk of becoming disabled, but on their self-determined participation in society and on the elimination of barriers to equal opportunities.

The aim is better laws and a better life for the many people who have disabilities or are at risk of becoming disabled. Book IX of the Social Code thus provides for medical, occupational and welfare benefits to achieve this aim quickly, effectively, economically and permanently. Accordingly, the benefits have been brought together under the heading of 'integration assistance'. People who have a disability or are at risk of becoming disabled are empowered to conduct their own affairs as far as possible independently and on their own responsibility.

Social integration assistance

This includes:

- Special education for pre-school children
- Measures to assist the individual's ability to communicate

- Measures to promote independent living in sheltered accommodation
- Assistance with taking part in social and cultural life

More information on occupational and medical rehabilitation assistance please check this document: http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile (2013), p. 64-65

Vocational youth training centres

These work in conjunction with firms and regions throughout the country to provide initial vocational training for young disabled persons. Young people who require special assistance are trained in vocational youth training centres by qualified staff and are supported by a range of different services (doctors, psychologists and teachers) with the aim of fostering their personal and vocational development.

For more information about benefits and conditions, facilities, special provisions for people with severe disabilities: http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile (2013), p. 64-69

Job4000

The Job4000 programme was launched on 1 January 2007, partly based on experience so far with projects and activities under the Jobs Without Barriers initiative. The programme aims to promote the occupational integration of severely disabled people in the mainstream labour market. It also supports the Federal Employment Agency in carrying out their statutory responsibilities concerning the occupational integration of people with disabilities.

The integration office pays employers a premium of up to 3,000 € a year if they provide a severely disabled young person with an additional vocational training place. A further premium of up to 5,000 € is available on completion of the training if the person is given employment subject to social insurance contributions. The aim is to create at least 500 new vocational training places for severely disabled young people. More information: Social security at a glance: http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a998-social-security-at-a-glance-total-summary.pdf?__blob=publicationFile (2013), p. 72

Reports

Federal Government Report on Participation with regard to the circumstances of persons with impairments, (July 2013, 472 pages).

[Link to German version](#)

[Link to English version](#)

Rehabilitation and participation of people with disabilities

This booklet deals with provisions in social legislation for the benefit of persons with disabilities or those at risk of disability specifically aimed at ensuring their self-determination and equitable participation in social life. (January 2010)

[Link to English version](#)

1.6. The contribution of youth work (and youth centres) to social inclusion of young people

Youth migration services - Advice for young people with a migrant background

The youth migration services (Jugendmigrationsdienste – JMD) help young people to meet the challenges of integrating into life in Germany. They advise and help immigrant young people and young adults up to the age of 27 who are no longer required to attend school.

The advice provided by the youth migration services is free of charge at all times.

The programmes offered by the youth migration services range from personal help with an integration support plan and advice for individual cases through to work with parents and group activities or courses. They provide you with information and assistance regarding issues such as:

- Parenting, childhood and youth
- School and education
- Career planning
- Using computers and programmes to learn German

There are youth migration services throughout Germany at over 420 locations. They are provided by organisations involved in youth social work:

- Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Evangelische Jugendsozialarbeit (Federal Association of Evangelical Youth Social Work)
- Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Katholische Jugendsozialarbeit (Federal Association of Catholic Youth Social Work)
- Arbeiterwohlfahrt (AWO – Workers' Welfare Association)
- Internationaler Bund (youth, social work and training association, incl. Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband and the German Red Cross)

More information:

- http://www.jugendmigrationsdienste.de/_template.php?1=1&action=about (in German)
- <http://www.bamf.de/EN/Willkommen/InformationBeratung/JugendlicheBeratung/jugendlicheberatung.html>

Brochure: Welcome to Germany

Information for immigrants on the following topics:

- Learning German; Information and advice; residence and naturalization; Work and career; housing; children and family; school, training, studying; Health and preventive healthcare; banks and insurance; shopping and consumer protection; Associations and organizations; Life in Germany

Source: http://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/EN/Publikationen/Broschueren/willkommen-in-deutschland.pdf?__blob=publicationFile

Advice to young people with vocational problems (Jugendberufshilfe)

More information:

- <http://www.jbh.de/>
- <http://www.bagejsa.de/handlungsfelder/jugendberufshilfe/>

2. Research on social inclusion

Is there any national report/ national survey investigating the social exclusion of young people in your country, including issues of discrimination?

The following list is only a selection of titles and should not be considered to be an exhaustive list.

- **German Youth Institute: Perceived discrimination and (re)ethnicisation among young immigrants, (2005-2007)**

The media in European countries like in France, Germany, Netherlands and Britain have reported increasing concern among officials about the emergence of parallel societies formed by immigrants populations. These so called "parallel societies" are characterised by poor educational achievement among children, lack of training opportunities for young people, a high rate of unemployment among young adults, a high crime rate, frequent vandalism and - last but not least - a trend towards ethnic self-exclusion among teenagers and young adults (Wacquant 1999). Actually very little is known about the determinants of integration and ethnic self-exclusion among young people, particularly those at disadvantage in the education and training systems and on the job market.

Therefore we seek to address the issue by asking a number of questions. What are the causes of failure in vocational training and employment within this group? How does such failure relate to processes of ethnic self-exclusion? Which institutional factors support ethnic self-exclusion? Plays perceived discrimination in institutional, social and cultural contexts a

significant role in explaining ethnic self-exclusion? Under which circumstances can this kind of exclusion be reversed?

Source and more info: <http://www.dji.de/cgi-bin/projekte/output.php?projekt=473&sprache=E>

- **German Youth Institute: Supporting School-to-Work Transition of Young Immigrants from the CIS States (2005-2008)**

During the transition from school to work, young immigrants from the CIS-states are particularly at risk of undergoing permanent exclusion from employment and participation in society. As they are strongly oriented towards the standard vocational education and training, these young people subjectively only have limited opportunities to make use of alternative pathways to the normal progression from school to vocational training to skilled work. The aim of this project is to provide information about the school-to-work transitions experienced by this group (describing the triggering factors, courses and turning-points involved in exclusion and self-exclusion) and to propose innovative strategies for integrating these young people.

Source and more information on the outcome: <http://www.dji.de/cgi-bin/projekte/output.php?projekt=725&sprache=E>

- **German Youth Institute: Transitions to Work among Young People with an Immigrant Background (2006-2009)**

In the framework of an integrated European project investigating youth as a phase of life and the conditions for the development of young people in various EU member states or regions of Europe, this project is concerned with the transitions to work among young people with an immigrant background and among members of ethnic minorities. The aim is to analyse the challenges that arise for young people and young adults due to the individualization processes that take place in these EU states and as a result of national and European youth policies. In addition, the patterns of action and strategies for mastering the situation adopted by young people in the face of these challenges are to be investigated. For this purpose, statistical and empirical data on the life situation for 'young people in Europe' are being gathered, systematized and analysed in order to make them useful for developing recommendations on social policy and youth policy. An initial analysis of the available data suggests that particularly in the tripartite school system in Germany, young people with an immigrant background are channelled at an early stage into educational courses from which the transition to training and employment tends to be quite difficult.

Source: <http://www.dji.de/cgi-bin/projekte/output.php?projekt=726&sprache=E>

- **Research on school and inclusion** (in German):
http://www.unesco.de/inklusive_bildung_material_5.html
- **Sinus Jugend-Studie „Wie ticken Jugendliche?“**
Young people were asked about their values, school, professional orientation, policy and society, media use, religion and voluntary involvement. The research illustrates the life of teenagers (14 to 17 years) in Germany by using quotations from the interviews, collages made by the young people on „What makes sense in my life” and photos of their rooms.
<http://www.sinus-institut.de/sinus-news/year/2012/month/03/backPid/67/news/vorstellung-der-neuen-sinus-jugendstudie-am-28-maerz-in-berlin.html>
- Frank Tillmann/Carsten Gehne, **Situation of excluded young people. Expert opinion including the practical perspective** (Situation ausgegrenzter Jugendlicher. Expertise unter Einbeziehung der Perspektive der Praxis). In German.
http://www.bagkjs.de/media/raw/DJI_Expertise_Situation_ausgegrenzter_Jugendlicher_Tillmann_Gehne_.pdf
- **How and why promotion of disadvantaged people works.** A longitudinal analysis to monitor sustainable integration of low skilled young people into a vocational training. (Wie und warum Benachteiligtenförderung gelingt. Eine Längsschnittuntersuchung zur Beobachtung der nachhaltigen Integration gering qualifizierter Jugendlicher in eine berufliche Ausbildung). Research 2011-2014. In German. <http://www.empirische-bildungsforschung-bmbf.de/de/1527.php>
- **The completion of the transition from school to a vocational training for young people with a migrant background in comparison to indigenous young people** (Die Bewältigung des Übergangs Schule - Berufsausbildung bei Migrantinnen und Migranten im Vergleich zu autochthonen Jugendlichen). Research 2011-2014. In German. <http://www.empirische-bildungsforschung-bmbf.de/de/1464.php> and: <http://www.dji.de/cgi-bin/projekte/output.php?projekt=1044>

Is there any longitudinal research focused on the cumulative nature of disadvantage (taking place across generations of the same family)

The following list is only a selection of titles and should not be considered to be an exhaustive list.

- **Successful and unsuccessful education of young men who originate from Italian migrant families** (Erfolgreiche und nicht-erfolgreiche Bildungsverläufe junger Männer aus italienischen Migrantenfamilien – Transmission und Transformation in adoleszenten Generationenbeziehungen). Research 2011-2014. In German. <http://www.empirische-bildungsforschung-bmbf.de/de/1479.php>
- **Education in context of long-term social and familial dynamics** (Bildungsverläufe im Kontext langfristiger sozialer und familialer Dynamiken). Research 2011-2014. In German. <http://www.empirische-bildungsforschung-bmbf.de/de/1475.php>
- **Individual education in the system of transition: Interdependency of individual, social and institutional terms** (Individuelle Bildungsverläufe im Übergangssystem: zur Wechselwirkung von individuellen und sozialen Merkmalen und institutionellen Bedingungen. Research 2012-2015. In German. <http://www.empirische-bildungsforschung-bmbf.de/de/1499.php>

Apart from national reports and surveys, are you aware of other research that is valuable for understanding the situation of young people (esp. those with fewer opportunities) in the current crisis?

The following list is only a selection of titles and should not be considered to be an exhaustive list.

- **„Young, dependent and without opportunities?! – Avoiding exclusion of young people”** ("Jung, abgehängt und chancenlos?! - Ausgrenzung junger Menschen verhindern"). In: Dreizehn-Zeitschrift für Jugendsozialarbeit, edition 5/2011. In German. http://www.jugendsozialarbeit.de/media/raw/dreizehn_LT_2011_Ausgabe_05_ANSICHT.pdf
- **Situation of excluded young people** (Situation ausgegrenzter Jugendlicher). Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Katholische Jugendsozialarbeit (BAG KJS) e.V. im Rahmen des Kooperationsverbundes Jugendsozialarbeit (2012). In German. http://www.bagkjs.de/media/raw/DJI_Expertise_Situation_ausgegrenzter_Jugendlicher_Tillmann_Gehne_.pdf
- **Inclusion in Germany – a statistical analysis with special focus on education** (Inklusion in Deutschland – eine bildungsstatistische Analyse, Bertelsmann (2012). In German.

http://www.bertelsmann-stiftung.de/cps/rde/xbcr/SID-9FE1D608-39300339/bst/xcms_bst_dms_37485_37486_2.pdf

3. Examples of policy responses and practices

What are the relevant initiatives/projects at regional/ national level promoting the social inclusion of young people?

VerA Initiative

The initiative was developed to support youths and prevent them from dropping out of vocational training with the assistance of Senior Experts who act as tutors. At the end of 2008, the Senior Experten Service (SES) - one of the leading German voluntary organisations for retired specialists and executives - created the VerA initiative in cooperation with central associations of German industry, skilled crafts and liberal professions. VerA is supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) as one of its "education chain" programmes. VerA is an offer to all youths who experience difficulties during their vocational training and who consider dropping out. The SES provides these youths - upon request - with Senior Experts who have both professional and life experience - retired specialists who are prepared systematically for their task. SES tutors work on an honorary basis. More info: <http://vera.ses-bonn.de/service/ueber-vera/> <http://www.bmbf.de/de/14266.php> (in German)

TrialNet: <http://www.trialnet.de/trialnet0.html>

Simply participating: Website for people with disabilities, their families, administration, companies. (Einfach teilhaben: Webportal für Menschen mit Behinderung, ihre Angehörigen, Verwaltung, Unternehmen). http://www.einfach-teilhaben.de/DE/StdS/Home/stds_node.html (in German)

Strengthening youth (JUGEND STÄRKEN)

With matched components, this initiative promotes the school, occupational and social integration of underprivileged young people and young immigrants (Section 13 of Book VIII of the Social Code). It consists of the four ESF programmes, Schulverweigerung – Die 2. Chance (A second chance for truants), Kompetenzagenturen (Competency agencies), 'Aktiv in der Region' (Getting involved in the region) and Jugendmigrationsdienste (Youth Migration Services) financed from national funds. At a total of some 800 locations, local actors at the interfaces of school, vocational training, the labour market, youth welfare and business and industry are assisted in setting up

networks to integrate young people with fewer chances in life. <http://www.jugend-staerken.de/> (in German)

The **Federal ESF programme, Education, Economy, Work in the Neighbourhood (BIWAQ)** promotes individualised measures for improving the school, occupational and social situation of long-term unemployed persons, youth and immigrants in deprived neighbourhoods to contribute to strengthening social cohesion and local integration. The measures are closely linked to town planning investments as part of the of the urban development programme, Social City – Sustainable development for deprived neighbourhoods, and the integrated development schemes for the respective district. Cooperation and networking with local social and business partners will secure the results achieved and capacities built for the long term. More info: http://www.biwaq.de/cln_032/sid_28971F934F7BB66EFAEAE605E228D5BA/DE/1Programm/node.html?__nnn=true

National reform programme 2012:
http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/nd/nrp2012_germany_en.pdf

1. Educational chains until the completion of training (Abschluss und Anschluss – Bildungsketten bis zum Ausbildungsabschluss)

This initiative is not merely a support programme. Its aim is to bring about a systemic optimization of the transitions between school, the transitional system and dual vocational education and training. The focus is on avoiding school dropouts, preventing waiting loops and achieving efficient transitions to dual training and the completion of such dual training, especially for young people who need particular support. This includes strengthening company responsibility for training preparation. Last but not least, a further aim is to counter the impending shortage of skilled workers occasioned by demographic change.

The Federal Ministry of Education and Research worked in conjunction with the federal states and acted in accordance with a standardized catalogue of criteria to select over 1,000 lower secondary schools and schools for pupils with learning difficulties right across the country as venues of deployment. Many young people will receive extra-school support from full-time, experienced educational guides on an individual and continuous basis. This provision will extend until conclusion of training in problem cases. 1,000 educational guides are responsible for nearly 30,000 young people until 2014. These guides are joined by around 1,000 volunteer educational guides from the Senior Expert Service. These unpaid Senior Experts - most of whom have many years of occupational and training experience -

work in close conjunction with the locally based full-time post holders with a particular focus on supporting and stabilizing young people during the vocational training process.

Quelle: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/nd/nrp2012_germany_en.pdf , p. 16

2. Initiative to Support Structural Change (IFLAS)

With the initiative, low-skilled individuals are helped to acquire a vocational qualification or learn employable skills through modular courses if it is not possible for them to complete a full vocational programme in one go. Source:

http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/nd/nrp2012_germany_en.pdf, p. 16

National Action Plan “Our Path to an Inclusive Society”

In June 2011, the Federal Government adopted a National Action Plan entitled “Our Path to an Inclusive Society” (Unser Weg in eine inklusive Gesellschaft) with the aim of systematically promoting the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2018). The Action Plan comprises over 200 programmes, projects and campaigns. One of the essential measures in the National Action Plan is the Inclusion Initiative, which focuses in particular on establishing training places and jobs for severely disabled people on the general labour market

National Action Plan “Our Path to an Inclusive Society” (Engl.):

http://www.bmas.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/PDF-Publikationen/a740-short-en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile

Good practice North Rhine Westfalia: School meets Working Environment – Integrating young people with severe handicaps (STAR Schule trifft Arbeitswelt – Integration schwerbehinderter Jugendlicher)

http://www.gib.nrw.de/arbeitsbereiche/jugend_und_beruf/behinderte-jugendliche/copy_of_star-ausbau

Job 4000 – Program for severely disabled people to improve their integration into the jobmarket (Programm zur besseren beruflichen Integration besonders betroffener schwer behinderter Menschen). Initiated by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs:

<http://www.bmas.de/DE/Themen/Teilhabe-behinderter-Menschen/Initiative-Jobs-ohne-Barrieren/Programm-Job4000/inhalt.html>

International Voluntary Service for Young People

The Federal Government introduced the International Voluntary Service for Young People on 1 January 2011 and the Federal Voluntary Service for people of all ages on 1 July 2011. Last year, it also increased federal funding for youth voluntary services.

Voluntary services help people to develop their personal and social skills while acquiring expertise in various professional fields (frequently in the social or environmental areas). Migrants and disadvantaged people should be encouraged to play a more active role in voluntary services. These services are ideally placed to support the social inclusion of disadvantaged young people and people with a migration background. There is, for example, the option of providing additional funding to volunteers with particular educational needs. This option is to be more extensively used for volunteer programmes in the year 2012/13. (both services started in 2011)

Databases (in German)

- **Projektkompass** (project compass): projects and initiatives with the focus on people with disabilities: http://www.einfach-teilhaben.de/PK/DE/StdS/Home/stds_node.html
- **Länder Aktiv** (active regions): projects and programmes of the 16 Länder (regions) in the field of transitions from school to work: <http://www.laenderaktiv.de/index.php>

Have young people and civil society organizations been given political and financial support to be involved in the policy making process on social inclusion?

Bundesnetzwerk Bürgerschaftliches Engagement (National Network for civil society)

The BBE is a nationwide network linking organizations and associations from the third sector (non-profit organizations) and civil society, from business and work life and federal and community institutions. They promote civic involvement in all social areas and forms (e.g., in social work and health care, sports, cultural activities, environment, education and academics, politics and business). Civic involvement means holding an honorary office, doing volunteer work or participating in self-help projects. People are involved in clubs, associations, political parties, (civic) foundations, networks, citizens' initiatives or social movements.

Link: <http://www.b-b-e.de/bbe-english/>

Deutscher Bundesjugendring (German Federal Youth Council)

The German Federal Youth Council was founded in 1949 as a working group of youth organisations and regional youth councils active throughout Germany. Its current membership includes 24 youth organisations, 16 regional youth councils and 5 affiliated organisations. The 5 affiliated organisations have an advisory vote. The youth organisations united in the DBJR are diverse in both aims and orientation. The variety of member organisations spans from religiously

oriented associations, scouts, ecological, cultural and humanitarian organisations to worker's youth federations.

In its work the DBJR focuses on **three priorities**:

- to represent youth interests and common aims of its member organisations - to public, to parliament and to government;
- to ensure an ongoing information flow between its member organisations and to enable them to achieve common positions on youth policy;
- to cooperate with youth organisations and national youth councils outside Germany.

Contact: info[at]dbjr.de, www.dbjr.de

Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung (Federal Agency for civic and political education)

www.bpb.de (in German)

Have youth organisations and other civil society organisations been involved in the development of the policies related to social inclusion of young people ?

In the framework of the Structured Dialogue on social inclusion of young people two consultations with young people and youth groups were organised in autumn/winter 2012/2013 and summer 2013. Independent projects and activities on a local, regional and sometimes national level form the basis of the Structured Dialogue in Germany. In these projects and activities, young people develop opinions, recommendations and suggestions, partly in co-operation with policy makers of different political levels. These inputs were included in the consultation as results of decentralised dialogue processes. Other inputs were e.g. given by young people in workshops, or were excerpted from position papers of youth councils and youth organisations. The consultations were also open for all interested individual young people (<https://www.strukturiertes-dialog.de/mitmachen/article/index/kid/9> and <https://www.strukturiertes-dialog.de/mitmachen/article/index/kid/13>).

In order to follow-up to the outcomes of the consultations, a feedback process has been developed by the National Working Group on the Structured Dialogue, which applies to every consultation round. A standing agreement has been reached with the Working Group of the federal government and the Federal States (Bundesländer) for the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy. The panel is a decisive political stakeholder for European youth policy in Germany and discusses the results from the Structured Dialogue and gives the participants a written feedback which is published and forwarded to them. Besides the Working Group of the federal government and the

Federal States further political stakeholders involved in the topic were contacted and asked for feedback.