

Project milestones

1st project meeting in Graz: 3.3.2013 – 6.3.2013

11 representatives of secondary schools, schools for Vocational Educational training, companies and local government from 's-Hertogenbosch (NL) visited Graz (AT). Main aim of the CHAIN-exchange is to get a clear picture of how schools, companies and local government work closely together to prepare young people for labour market-perspective. So in the two days exchange these three stakeholders (schools, companies, local government) show their joint effort.

In this visit we especially worked on the following themes/topics:

- How to increase the involvement of companies for education/cooperation with schools
- Life long learning (is there any policy on this in the involved companies in this Comenius project)
- Demand orientated approach by local government, labour office, schools. Basis is the demand of the labour market; schools, labour office, local government take this as a start for their work/approach
- Career orientation and career guidance (again demand of the labour market starting point for activities by schools/STVG etcetera)
- Labour market information; only by good knowledge of the local/regional labour market you can prepare young people to the right jobs/companies
- HRM-policy; important to know what HRM-policy is made by the involved companies. Schools and local government can focus on a better way to realise a well functioning labour market!

Local government

At the townhall of Graz Herbert Just, head of Stadtschulamt Graz, gave information about Graz "City of schools". Andreas Morianz explained the economic situation. It was clear that Graz is booming, a lot of industry, a lot of chances for young people in the transition from school to work. Very impressive, also the active role of the city of Graz to connect schools and companies.

Schools

The presentation of NMS Webling and NMS Klusemannstraße showed us how the networks between schools, companies and the city of Graz are functioning. You could see, feel and smell the close cooperation between the different actors in the field of education and labour market.

Companies

The visit to Andritz AG was great. Bernhard Pesenhofer, Head of Assembly/Packing/Apprentices gave a presentation about the company and apprenticeships. The plant tour was impressive. Gernot Pagger from Federation of Austrian Industries explained the role of companies/ associations of companies to connect the worlds of school and work. It is clear that companies are pro-active in the connection with education.

