WE, THE CITY OF HAMBURG!

HAMBURG INTEGRATION CONCEPT - STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATORY APPROACH

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What is meant by integration

Hamburg integration policy

- Aims to ensure that people **enjoy equal rights when it comes to participation** in key areas of community life, whether they have an immigrant background or not.

- **Structural data** are **made measurable** by means of the integration concept and compared with the results – regarding the integration climate – from the integration barometer.

- The key strategy is **achieving intercultural openness** of the state.

- A concept which since 2013 has covered **all** people with an immigrant background, i.e. refugees too.

- A “**We-concept**”, which is aimed both at the immigrants and the society accepting them, since integration can only succeed if society as a whole embraces the task.
Hamburg integration concept - starting situation

- Hamburg has had an integration concept since as early as 2006

- 2013: First update (“Hamburg Integration Concept – Participation, Intercultural Opening and Cohesion”)

- 2017: Second update (“We, the city of Hamburg! Participation, Intercultural Opening and Cohesion”)
Hamburg integration concept – update in 2017

“Participation, Intercultural Opening and Cohesion”

- Integration understood as measurable equal participation – for the first time, indicators with target values for all areas.
- Inclusive idea – “We-concept”.
- Orientation towards goals (not measures or projects).
- Key strategies: intercultural opening and antidiscrimination.
- Refugees explicitly included as a target group.
- Participation process (integration committee, specialist authorities…)
Main areas of focus

I. Naturalisation and political involvement
   1. Naturalisation
   2. Parties, Hamburg Parliament, district assemblies and deputations

II. Strengthening democracy and participation
   1. Language training for adults
   2. Migration counselling
   3. Norms and values
   4. Political education

III. Education from day one
   1. Early years education
   2. General school education
   3. Vocational education/training
   4. Tertiary education/academic studies

IV. Professional success
   1. Equal labour market opportunities
   2. Self-employment
   3. Continuing vocational education
   4. General continuing education

V. Settling into society, strengthening cohesion
   1. Volunteer work
   2. Child and youth work
   3. Social work for seniors and senior citizen participation
   4. Sport
   5. Culture
   6. Consumer protection

VI. Residing and living together in urban quarters
   1. Accommodation of refugees and integration into private housing
   2. Safety and security of refugees in accommodation
   3. Housing market
   4. Practising diversity in urban quarters

VII. A healthy life in Hamburg
   1. Health
   2. Nursing care
Main areas of focus

Measurable equal participation

- Each section of the integration concept contains a *we-statement*, effectively as a “*meta-target*”.
- Sub-goals have been developed for all areas of life/specialist policy which can be dynamically adapted.
- **Indicators (approx. 140):** we use these to assess what we understand by equal participation in this area.
- **Target values:** we use these to measure whether we are making progress in integration –with reference to the specialist policy approach in each case.
- We don’t think in projects! We try to govern in an outcome-oriented way and to place the *state’s systems of rules* at the heart of what we do.
Stakeholder Participation

The participation procedure

- The Senate’s integration policy, in particular the integration of refugees has gained **a lot of publicity in Hamburg** as well as nationwide.
- Citizens of Hamburg are highly involved in this process.
- Engaging in a **wide variety of associations and initiatives**.
- Greater role of the participation in the updated and revised version.
Stakeholder Participation

City-wide participation procedure

- From November 2016 to March 2017 **40 different events** held with various stakeholders from civil society, interest groups and institutions.

- Examples: **Integration advisory council**, senior citizens’ council, charitable associations, **refugee initiatives**, local prevention networks, resident councils of initial reception facilities, students from international preparatory classes, local events in the seven districts of Hamburg.

- Stakeholders discussed the most **important aspects and elements of integration** and the (initial) integration of refugees.

- Refugees could be involved in the process.

- Process has been **externally moderated by the Lawaetz Stiftung**.
Online survey

- **Online survey** between early November and mid-December 2016 for all Hamburg residents in order to achieve the widest possible participation.

- **530 persons took part** in this survey.

- They were asked to identify the most important areas of action for the integration concept.

- They were also asked to subjectively evaluate the practical integration policy in Hamburg.

- The majority of these respondents made statements about **norms and values**, **living together in the urban quarters**, **volunteering** and **accommodation**.
Additional talks with members of IFI*

- **Six talks** with members of IFI about the implementation of a “**Masterplan Integration**”.
- Discussions focused on the **labour market, early childhood education and school**. They were asked to identify the most important areas of action for the integration concept.
- The Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration (SVR) was commissioned to **prepare a scientific expert report** on the integration concept.
- SVR was also mandated to establish **an integration barometer** for Hamburg.

* IFI = Member of Hamburg Alliance of Refugee Initiatives
Stakeholder Participation

Documentation of the participation procedure

- Process has been fully documented by the Lawaetz Stiftung and published at the internet.
- The competent authorities and administrative offices have reviewed and evaluated the feedback provided in the form of statements, open questions and proposals.
- Results used for specific measures and for the development of integration indicators.
Stakeholder Participation - Limits

Limits of a participation procedure

- Suggestions and proposals made on topics over which Hamburg has no direct influence.
- The integration strategy only represents an extract of the technical strategies for action.
- Not all ideas fit in this strategy. Excluded ideas will be incorporated into or have already been established in the technical concepts of the involved administrative offices.
- Data, which is required for proposals relating to the addition of further indicators of integration, is not available.
Thank you for your attention.

The integration concept can be downloaded from:

hamburg-integration-concept.pdf

Contact for enquiries:
Department for Integration of Immigrants

Dr. Susanne Muth – Head of department
Tel.: +49 40 428 63 – 2953
E-Mail: susanne.muth@soziales.hamburg.de

Dorothea Stille
E-Mail: dorothea.stille@soziales.hamburg.de

Silvia Neumann
E-Mail: silvia.neumann@soziales.hamburg.de