Building Resilience through Adaptive Social Protection
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Overview and Objectives

We are delighted to welcome you to the Frankfurt region (Frankfurt/Main, Offenbach and Dietzenbach) to learn about Germany’s social protection programs. Forum participants will be divided into six groups with each traveling by bus to one of five sites in and around Frankfurt. There you will learn about local social assistance and employment services programs. Each group will return directly to the InterContinental Hotel after the field visit.

Generally speaking, the core instruments of adaptive social protection systems aim to build resilience, increase opportunities and ensure equity. This often means that programs provide cash transfers or other resource transfers such as shelter, food or nutrition inputs, and other basic needs. The field visits will broaden the focus to include active labor market instruments that are targeted to beneficiaries of social assistance. Germany ties labor market integration measures to the receipt of social assistance and attempts to do so at an early stage of receipt. The measures are also aimed at refugees who have a likelihood of being granted asylum. This approach recognizes that refugees are a vulnerable group and that promoting labor market integration at an early stage reduces the future risk of unemployment shocks and long-term dependency on social assistance.

Hence, the groups will look at both: social protection benefit systems, and labor market integration and activation for refugees. We hope that this will provide you with an understanding of how Germany’s adaptive social protection has been able to integrate new beneficiaries into the social benefits system as a result of their displacement and also how it is aiming to work with refugees to build their resilience and reduce vulnerabilities in a sustainable way through integration into the labor market.
Hesse or Hessia (German: Hessen) is a federal state (Land) of the Federal Republic of Germany, with just over six million inhabitants. The state capital is Wiesbaden; the largest city – and the fifth largest city in Germany, is Frankfurt am Main.

Frankfurt is at the center of the larger Frankfurt Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region, which has a population of 5.5 million and is Germany’s second-largest metropolitan region. Since the enlargement of the European Union (EU) in 2013, the geographic center of the EU is about 40 km (25 mi) to the east of Frankfurt’s central business district, the Bankenviertel (banking district).

Frankfurt is culturally and ethnically diverse. In 2015, 51.2% of the population had a migration background, according to the city register of residents. This marked the first time, a majority of the city’s residents had a non-German background. Moreover, about 27.7% of residents had a foreign citizenship, including many expatriates. Frankfurt is considered a multicultural city and is home to people of 180 nationalities. Sizable immigrant communities hail from Turkey, Croatia, Italy, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, Russia, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Spain, Portugal, France, China, Japan, the United States, Austria, the United Kingdom, Pakistan, Morocco and India. The Frankfurt urban area is also home to the second-largest Korean community in Europe and to Germany’s largest Sri Lankan Tamil community.

Offenbach am Main is a city in the Frankfurt Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region with a population of nearly 125,000. In the end of 2015, 37% of its residents did not have German citizenship, making Offenbach the city with the highest percentage of foreign nationals in Germany. As of 2016, more than 60% of Offenbach’s residents have a migration background.

Dietzenbach is a town with nearly 34,000 residents and seat of the Offenbach district. About a third of its population does not have German citizenship and hails from more than 100 nations.
Group 1: ProArbeit (JobCenter County Council Offenbach) Dietzenbach

13:00
Departure by bus from the InterContinental Hotel

13:45
Arrival at ProArbeit

14:00
Welcome at the Assembly Hall

14:30
Presentation: “Integration of refugees into the job market in the County of Offenbach”
Speaker: Shirin Teherani, Advisor & Coordinator Employment Office
Introduction: House of Integration Dietzenbach
Speaker: Imad Uddin
Introduction: Vocational Training at ProArbeit

16:30
Questions and Discussion

17:00
Return to the InterContinental Hotel by bus

Group 2: Agentur für Arbeit Offenbach (Federal Employment Agency)

13:15
Departure by bus from the InterContinental Hotel

13:45
Arrival at the Federal Employment Agency Offenbach

14:00
Welcome in room 107

Topic: “Services and Tasks of Agencies and Employment Offices for Refugees”
Speakers:
Thomas Iser, Director
Lena Speckmann, Department Employment for Refugees
Petar Jovicic, Department Employment for Refugees
Discussion
Brief tour of the Federal Employment Agency

16:30
Return to the InterContinental Hotel by bus
Groups 3 & 4: City of Frankfurt, Unit for Refugee Management

13:30
Departure by bus from the InterContinental Hotel

13:45
Arrival at FRAP Agentur
(non-profit organization for the job market program of Frankfurt)

14:00
Speakers:
Welcome by Katrin Wenzel, Unit for Refugees Management, City of Frankfurt
Bernd Schwenke and Heike Tschierschke, Local Youth and Social Welfare Office
Bernd Schwenke, Department “Refugees and non-locals”
Heike Tschierschke, Head of “Child Protection Services and Unaccompanied Minors”
Conrad Skerutsch, Director, or Birgit Poertner, Head of the Advisory Center, of FRAP-Agentur (labor market integration for refugees)
Anita Heise, “Frankfurt hilft” (Project Manager, coordination of volunteer activities)

17:00
Return to the InterContinental Hotel by bus

Group 5: MainArbeit (JobCenter City of Offenbach)

13:00
Departure by bus from the InterContinental Hotel

13:45
Arrival at the JobCenter

14:00
Welcome by Dr. Matthias Schulze-Böing, Director
Input and discussion: “Basic Protection, Activation, and Employment – Local Strategies and Impact in Offenbach”

Speakers:
Dr. Matthias Schulze-Böing, Director
Susanne Pfau, Deputy Director and Department Manager “Financial Aid”
N.N.

Tour of the Job Center

16:30
Return to the InterContinental Hotel by bus

Group 6: JobCenter Frankfurt

13:30
Departure by bus from the InterContinental Hotel

13:45
Arrival at the JobCenter

14:00
Welcome by Thomas Stotz, Speaker of the management
Input and discussion: “The Jobcenter Frankfurt am Main in the context of the German social system”

Speakers:
Eckart Bülten, Department Market & Integration, Refugee Coordinator
Barbara Onuk, Department of Migration and Social Issues

Tour of the admission area for the customers of the Youth Job Center incl. Application Center

16:30
Return to the InterContinental Hotel by bus
Locations

Group 1: Pro Arbeit (JobCenter in Dietzenbach)

Group 2: Agentur für Arbeit (Federal Employment Agency)

Group 3 & 4: City of Frankfurt

Group 5: MainArbeit (JobCenter Offenbach)

Group 6: JobCenter Frankfurt