

Helmut

The tools I learned in the course on project management helped us to get the "Education Agents", network for volunteers who want to share experiences after their return, on the ground. We created a webpage www.bildungsagenten.com to exchange ideas and methods for workshops at schools and public actions.

The mix of theory about project management and practical parts was very helpful. The differentiation between objectives, milestones and tasks was most useful, and I still use it today when applying for project funds. A clear view on what you want to achieve, what you can achieve and what you need to do for that, was just the key to start simple without losing our big vision. SMART objectives are a great way to focus on the right things. But never forget storytelling. Although clear goals are sometimes impressive, people tend to listen more to stories and heroes. So keep your vision alive and always think about whom you are doing the project for.

It's good to know the Gantt-Chart as a time planning tool. But in praxis as long as you work with unpaid people you can never keep to any plan. So doing projects in money-free initiatives is rather an event than a structured project and you need to be much more sensitive to the potentials and interests of your partners than telling them what to do when.