“Volkshochschulen”

German Adult Education Centers
Around **900** “Volkshochschulen” in Germany

- **Almost 3.000 branches**
- **Unique network** of local training facilities
- **Offer around 700,000 events a year** - mainly courses, but also lectures, study trips and excursions
- **Around 9 million participants** per year
“Volkshochschulen”: About vhs and Public Mission

About “Volkshochschulen”

- Leading further training facilities in Germany with a comprehensive range of educational services for everyone
- Tackle societal problems and help people cope with change
- Are reliable, non-party, non-denominational partners in education
- Maintain the attractiveness of cities, towns and regions
- Offer low-threshold adult education services near people’s home, in all parts of Germany

Public mission …

… is to provide access to further education for everyone in Germany.
Program is geared to the individual interests and needs of the participant; close link to socio-politically relevant issues.

“Volkshochschulen” as local educational partners of the federal and regional government

Program sections:
- Languages and German as second language
- Health education
- Culture and creativity
- Politics, society, environment
- Work and career
- Basic education
- School degrees
Financing and funding
- 32.5% of VHS’ revenue comes from participant fees
- 35.2% comes from public subsidies

(average values)

Legal forms
- “Volkshochschulen” are managed in different legal forms
- Most “Volkshochschulen” are run by local authorities
About DVV

**Lobby organization: Political representation** of “Volkshochschulen” at the federal level

**Umbrella organization** of 16 regional associations of “Volkshochschulen”

**Promoting cooperation and professional exchange** among its members

Shareholder of the “Grimme-Institut” (media, education and culture)

Shareholder of “telc gGmbH” (language tests and training)
Thank you / Merci!

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