

Corsica 13th – 15th October 2011

The days in Corsica were beautiful for the three of us and at the same time enriching and inspiring for our projects.

Why?

- because of the hearty and European atmosphere
- because work and learning were well organized and a lot of fun
- because Corsica is amazing- especially in brilliant sunshine

Being part of the project “dry stone wall” was insofar enriching as it includes everything that represents a successful project:

- the enthusiasm and expert knowledge of those who introduced the project to us
- the passion and commitment of those who instructed us in the practical work, the building of the walls in teams
- the fact that the project is a matter of public interest:

Regional cultural heritage is sustained and handed down. The rebuilt and paved paths and walls are beneficial for the local tourism. Due to the various involved groups (school classes, job-seekers, volunteers, international work camps, EU projects) it is possible to mingle with people that aren't a part of one's everyday life.

For our own projects, the garden and the learning restaurant, these characteristics served as thought-provoking impulses.

By building the walls with our bare hands in mixed groups, teamwork gained a whole new significance: experiencing one self and others in a completely new activity, seeing how simple and without many words everything works, how proud everyone is when their wall is being complimented. To see how meaningful many little details are once they are experienced together was an important and beautiful experience for us and will enrich the work with our participants in our own projects.

In the theoretical part we reflected the practical experiences and exchanged our impressions of the local projects. Knowing about some projects from our local visitors, it was not hard to imagine the challenges and difficulties that need to be overcome.

In a simulated counseling game the Londoners arranged it became clear how different the counseling affects the clients with variable personalities, their professions and institutions. Impressively the participants of the PPP team from London operated as clients. Their feedback on our counseling clarified once again how easily counseling can pass the needs of the clients and their individual situation.

Thanks to all and a big compliment to the coordinators of this meeting – we would have loved to spend a few more days with you!

On behalf of the Initial team
Christina, Dirk and Claudia