Dominik Zeidler
Die Helfer Wiens (The Helpers of Vienna)

• has worked for Die Helfer Wiens (The Helpers of Vienna) in the fields of presentations and events since 2006
• Platform named “Freiwillig für Wien“ (“Volunteer for Vienna“) since 2011
• Works for the Disaster Assistance Service of the Provincial Fire Brigade Federation of Vienna, as well as for the Peace Fleet “Mirno More“ on a voluntary/honorary basis
Voluntary work
Silent heroes of every-day life

Martin Schipany
Press and Information Service of the City of Vienna

Dominik Zeidler
Die Helfer Wiens (The Helpers of Vienna)
Contents of the presentation

• Figures, data, facts: “Voluntary work and honorary office”

• Online platform “Freiwillig für Wien” (“Volunteer for Vienna“)

• Accompanying campaign “Freiwilliges Engagement“ (“Voluntary Commitment“)
Voluntary work and honorary office

Participation rate in Vienna

- Voluntary work is very widespread in Vienna
- Voluntary commitment is an issue concerning all groups of the population
- 52% of the Viennese population (from the age of 15 years) engages in volunteer work!

Voluntary work and honorary office

Participation rate in Austria in comparison to the EU

- 23% committed Europeans
- 46% committed Austrians

The share of persons engaged in some kind of voluntary work in Austria is twice as high as the average in the EU

Source: Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austrian Integration Fund, Commitment for Austria, Voluntary Work and Honorary Office, 2015
Areas of voluntary work

- 22% in sports and exercise,
- 16% in art, culture and leisure, as well as
- 14% in disaster and rescue services

Source: Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austrian Integration Fund, Commitment for Austria, Voluntary Work and Honorary Office, 2015
The ways towards voluntary activities

• Two thirds via friends/acquaintances

• By providing more information, the potential of persons engaging in voluntary work could be exploited even more.

• Voluntary work = target group work

Barriers to voluntary work and honorary activities

• 61% indicated that they had never been asked or requested before.
• 57% have not considered this option yet.
• Those mentioning family-related responsibilities as an obstacle were only in third place (54%).

On the occasion of the European Year of Volunteering in 2011, the “Webtool Freiwillig für Wien“ (“Webtool Volunteer for Vienna“) was developed by order of the City of Vienna.
Originally, the idea was to create on own website.
Instead, a common free tool for websites was created.
The implementation of the tool is possible on all websites, with an individual design.
Web tool “Freiwillig für Wien” (“Volunteer for Vienna“)

• is a unique database for volunteers and organisations

• links organisations and potential volunteers in a network
Web tool “Freiwillig für Wien” (“Volunteer for Vienna“)

**Volunteers** can obtain information on the possibilities to engage personally in a very simple way!

**Organisations** profit from the network, as they can look for and find volunteers for job vacancies!
Organisations

• “Freiwillig für Wien“ (“Volunteer for Vienna“) is a free offer for organisations.
• Organisations profit from being able to look for and find volunteers for job vacancies.
• Service providers (non-profit organisations), but also institutions like the Vienna Association of Hospitals (KAV), etc. have the possibility to register.
Currently:

- more than 400 job offers online
- 280 users from organisations

- Get to know by mouse click where you are needed!
- Approximately 33,000 “job requests“ (contact form) since 2011
Web tool “Freiwillig für Wien“ (”Volunteer for Vienna“)
“Freiwillig für Wien“ ("Volunteer for Vienna") - Success factors

- “Die Helfer Wiens“ ("The Helpers of Vienna") are neutral
- The platform needs to be communicated
- “Freiwillig für Wien“ ("Volunteer for Vienna") is available 24 hours a day
- Direct contact to the organisations
- Variety of offers
“Freiwillig für Wien“ ("Volunteer for Vienna") - possible failure factors

• Not every organisation uses the tool, since offers by other organisations is also visible (competitive thinking).

• Poor support of job offers by the respective organisations (up-to-dateness, incorrect entries, establishment of contact)

• Technical obstacles (Internet) in case of elderly persons (extensive explanation required)
Thank you for listening.

Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!