



#CAFSS

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Contemporary Academy for social sustainability

The GEGENWARTSAKADEMIE is a temporary creative lab for social sustainability.

Due to what we call „refugee crisis“ in Europe this project is dedicated to the question: What can design do for people shelterless, on the run or without resources?

May & June 2016

The research lounge of designxport will host the GEGENWARTSAKADEMIE during a time period of five weeks (19th of May - 23rd of June on Tuesday + Wednesday + Thursday during the time of 12:00 - 05:30 p.m.).

What?

In an applied design research this project tries to identify new issues in cooperation of designers, students, citizens, teachers from Europe and affected people shelterless, on the run or without resources.

In the second step of the project we will work on solutions for these issues by means of design thinking while taking in consideration the cultural and social backgrounds of all stakeholders.

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All results will be shown in public by an exhibition event at designxport which will be accompanied by short lectures and an open forum to initiate a public discussion.

Most of the time solutions are a result of specialists who are not part of the target group but stakeholders in an economic process.

How can we then create solutions for people shelterless, on the run or without resources?
How do we meet their needs when we do not include the target group in an intercultural developing process?

The GEGENWARTSAKADEMIE is an open social laboratory which tries to explore the needs of

people shelterless, on the run or without resources in an applied research process by the means of design thinking methods.

In that sense knowledge and experience will be exchanged or even better generated between participants of different disciplines with hands on work to identify and solve social and cultural barriers.

At first glance it seems to be astonishing to combine words like refugee and design because we usually associate beautiful and expensive goods promoted by design brands with the expression design.

But we do believe in design thinking as a tool of inclusion and try to explore by this project how design can support the idea of social sustainability.

Why?

The Challenges

What can design do for people shelterless, on the run or without resources?

Most of the time solutions are a result of specialists who are not part of the target group but stakeholders in an economic process.

How can we then create solutions for people shelterless, on the run or without resources?

How do we meet their needs when we do not include the target group in a intercultural developing process?

... create social sustainability.

Our Aim

We are aiming for solutions in terms of design by including all stakeholders in a result open applied research.

Making a change by designing information, shelter, processes, products, social interaction, cities, communities, opinions, knowledge ... society.

In the end of the first phase of this project we will document the results in an exhibition event with an open forum and short lectures.

... **„If we knew what it was we were doing, it would not be called research, would it?“**

(Albert Einstein)

Our Way

We include different parties on eye level in a result open research by design thinking methods.

Guided by three university teachers interdiscip-

linarily teams of european students, refugees, homeless, jobless and citizens we will work in the location of designxport, Hamburg for a defined period of time.

They will use tools of design thinking processes like the „Design Pressure Cooker“ to involve professionals from different sectors in the teamwork.

Knowledge will be generated by lectures of specialists, participation of institutions, reports and inclusion of those affected.

... dedication and teamwork.

For Whom

Due to the european „refugee crisis“ we dedicate this project to those who are shelterless, on the run or without resources.

But since we are facing more and more social divergence in our societies problems have to be taken serious for all people, not only for those in need.

In this sense we all are affected, those who lost their home, those who stay home, those who are poor and those who are used to live in comfort.

... for all of us and a socially compatible society.

Where & When?

Duration:

19th of May - 23rd of June
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
12:00 - 05:30 p.m

Sign in now till 24th of April 12:00 p.m.

Please send a short CV for application.

Via email: apply@gegenwartsakademie.de

Number of participants is limited.

Participation is not suable.

English is as interlanguage required

Nomination of participants 28th of April till
12:00 a.m. Nominees will be informed via mail.

Location:

designxport
Hongkongstraße 8
20457 Hamburg

Who?

Teacher:

Prof. Sudipto Dasgupta, Shristi Institute Bangalore
Prof. Florian Borkenhagen; AMD Hamburg
Dipl. Des. Christian Schüten, BFGF Design Studios Hamburg /
designxport e.V.

Partner:

designxport, Hamburg
Shristi Institute, Bangalore, India
AMD - Akademie Mode Design, Hamburg
HAW - Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg
HfbK - Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg
HOD - House of Design Foundation, Groningen, Netherlands
Frisian Design Factory, Leeuwarden, Netherlands
SDS - The Sustainable Design School, Nice, France
Mutter - Gesellschaft für Design und Vermarktung mbH,
Hamburg
bangaloREsidency, Goethe Institut Max Mueller Bhavan,
Bangalore, India

The Project-Team

Our team is composed of european students,
refugees, homeless, jobless, teachers, professio-
nals and citizens.

Yet confirmed:

HAW Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg
AMD - Akademie Mode Design, Hamburg
HfbK - Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg
HOD - House of Design Foundation, Groningen, Netherlands
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SDS - The Sustainable Design School, Nice, France
Shristi Institute, Bangalore, India

Exhibition and open forum:

Results will be presented 23rd of June at
designxport Hamburg.

Initiator:

designxport
designxport e.V.

Further Information

Our team is international, intercultural and
interdisciplinary.

We will work in heterogenous groups to create
understanding by sharing knowledge.

Participation and Inclusion are core values for
our team building.

By involving different stakeholders from diffe-
rent cultural background on eye level we create
flat level hierarchy task forces.

... international think tanks are intercultural think
tanks.