

Presentation of the Project „ Education without Frontiers“

„ Education without Frontiers by KEM Austria (Kurz Education and Marketing KG, Project Manager Prof. Mag. Brita Pilshofer) offers the unique opportunity to earn the title of an Austrian Engineer of Higher Technical School within 5 years of studying, starting in the last year of secondary education and completing after 13 years of schooling as a whole. This title is equivalent with an International Baccalaureate. Included are International certificates of Higher Technical Education which KEM is entitled to grant to the schools participating in this project.

This education provides the students with the ability to immediately become part of the workforce in big enterprises like Siemens, VW- group, local business (Iran) etc.and take part immediately in complex technical work processes with high reputation and dotation.

We imagine a cooperation with the Technical and Vocational Training Organisation (TVTO) as apart from our Engineering Courses we can also offer short-term technical education and e- learning (like in Coursera courses) and life long learning (for technical teachers and students) as according to the TVTO charter.

Higher Technical Education for Engineers

Technical Education is highly valued in Austria and especially the Higher Technical Schools (HTLs- Higher Technical Schools) have an excellent reputation all over Europe. They provide their students with a diploma of a HTL- Engineer which is equivalent to an International Bachelor and a postgraduation. Their graduates are immediately employed by big firms of the European industry and technical workforce in Austria, Germany, Switzerland like VW, Siemens, Bosch, Volvo etc.

They offer graduation in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, information technology, industrial management, civil engineering, building construction, wood construction and interior decoration etc.

The individual courses take five years of instruction and have each a curriculum that is approved of by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education.

The final exams are called „ Matura „, and provide the graduates with the title of a „ HTL- Engineer „,

Thus, after only 13 years of schooling altogether students can directly start as highly qualified engineers in big companies or can open their own technical business. The best students will be awarded with a grant to attend Austrian technical universities.

The courses have 18 hours per week of technology and practise (already in combination with big firms where they work practically and for who they write

scientific studies on instruction of their technical teachers at school) and 20 hours in general knowledge like languages (German, English, Portuguese or Spanish, Farsi , etc. depending on the country), history and political science, geography, biology etc.

This is called a dual system, which means that practise exercises are held as well in school as in industry. This also includes practica at local firms during the year and in the vacations which corresponds to TVTO requirements of practical instructions. An exemplary timetable is included . Added to the timetable is the industrial practicum in the summer holidays (minimum 4 weeks a year).

Partners so far

KEM has one partner- school in Ningbo, China, where the project will be started in August 2015.

In Brasil the Project „ Education without Frontiers“ has one future partner in Curitiba (Escola Alema) to start with in 4 years from now, as they are now expanding from Primary School to Secondary Education (ensino médio). Consultations are being held in Sao Paulo with official representatives of the Segretaria de Educacao de Sao Paulo and the Segretaria de Desenvolvimento Economico e Técnico and the Centro Paula Souza to establish our courses in the public school sector.

More private schools might follow as there are consultations going on at the moment.

In Mexico right at the moment vocational schools are informed by a marketing campaign with the aid of the Austrian Embassy.

The project in Brazil is supported by the Austrian Embassy in Brasilia and the Austrian Consulate in Sao Paulo as well as by the Austrian Chamber of Commerce so far.

We hope to get financial assistance for the triggering time in Austria for Iran, Brazil and Mexico from the Austrian Aussenwirtschaft of the Chamber of Commerce as we have applied for the Export Cheque 2015- 2019.

Train the Trainer Concept

Our concept, as the experience with China has shown, is best performed by a Train the Trainer education. Local teachers qualified for the Higher Secondary Education are responsible for the general knowledge subjects (and thus in Brasil formatura – the local certificate for admission to state universities- is attempted to be provided as well). In all the countries this diploma includes the certificate for admission to university as well as the Bachelor degree. For the

technical part of 18 hours per week ongoing for 5 years local teachers of the Higher Technical School are coached and supervised by lecturers and experts of the HTL- system in Austria. They travel in regular intervals from Austria to their partner-school and take active part in lecturing, staff meetings, etc. and lecture about the Austrian HTL curricula , teaching methods and system. Back to Austria they send material, aims of education and prototypical examples, preparations for lessons , tests etc. and give advice whenever needed (e-learning). The project opens bilateral opportunities as the proportion of teachers involved will be 10-15 local teachers to 2 experts from Austria. The final examinations will be taken by the teachers and experts in common and chaired by a representative of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education. The project will be administered and continually updated tot he latest standards by KEM Austria.

What is needed

We need schools in function (public schools and state schools) and professors qualified for Higher Education (general and technical) in our partner countries. These schools find investors in the local industry (e.g. car industry, construction industry etc.) who are interested to have highly-qualified future employees in their own country to be able to compete with other industries. We can give an expertise in local industries of the advantages of our HTL- system in advance. After the initializing process when the licence has to be bought for the teachers in Iran to be able to function as multipliers and instructors themselves, a permanent quality management system like in Austria will also be needed in Iran and will be provided by KEM. The costs of this service will diminish compared to the proportion of students taking part in the programm.

The higher the scope of application is in a country the lower are the costs. They include the licence, the administration and service by KEM, the salaries of the Austrian experts, travel costs and accomodation, examination fees.

This project opens job opportunities for technical teachers and staff directly in Iran.

If the countries in question form an organizational board this might be helpful. In Iran this could be located within TVTO in our opinion.

Part of the technical training can be completed by practica directly at local firms and branches of the industry whilst theoretical research work for the firms will be undertaken by the school in return.

About us

KEM was founded in March 2015 and is in cooperation with e.g. the European Training and Research Institute (ETRI) as well as P&A Cultural and Vocational Faculty Ltd.

It was founded by technicians and professors of Higher Education.

Dir. Dipl.- Ing. Franz Kurz is CEO. He is headmaster of HTL Hallein in Salzburg, Austria, member of the Federation of Austrian Headmasters in HTLs, member of the International Federation of Engineering Education (IGIP) with consultative status with UNESCO and UNIDO as well as treasurer of EACD (European Association of Building Craft and Design).

I myself am Project Manager for Iran and Latin- America. I was professor of languages for 33 years and was head of the English department at the Swiss-Brazilian School in Sao Paulo (ESBSP) until 2000. I am a Member of the Austrian Federation of Research and Development of Education (ÖFEB).

I was Individual Member of ILO until 1997 (when I moved to Sao Paulo, Brazil to teach at an International School as stated above)) giving lectures on work, gender, social affairs all over Europe. Until then I was also Foreign Secretary of the Austrian association of IFUW (International Federation of University Women). In 2007 I founded a political Network on Education on all educational levels in Austria.

Our website about „Education is Barrier- Free“ can be seen under the following link:

www.mag-brita-pilshofer.at

The homepage of KEM can be seen under the link:

www.kem-education.com

Yours sincerely, with kind regards from Salzburg, Austria

Brita Pilshofer

Prof. Mag. Brita Pilshofer
Project Manager
„ Education without Frontiers, „
KEM, ÖFEB
[mailto: britapilshofer@yahoo.de](mailto:britapilshofer@yahoo.de)

Dir. Dipl.- Ing. Franz Kurz
IGIP, EACD
HTL- Hallein,
CEO KEM
<mailto:franz.kurz@ass-experts.com>

KEM Kurz Education & Marketing KG

