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## Update RCE-Ruhr

### Mainproject: sevengardens

#### Qualification and training for implementation of ESD in civilsociety

##### Crossing borders

Crossing borders is one of the basic principles of sevengardens. These can be the borders between countries - sevengardens actually has partners in all parts of the world – as well as imaginary boundaries between teachers and learners, between different departments, between children's art and “sophisticated culture”, etc. In a process of coevolution sevengardens creates a culture of learning together as well as a culture of mutual learning and motivation.

That is the way art and science come together: We learn from schools – as in the fields of inclusion and inegration – or present children’s artworks in places for sophisticated art, where they are exhibited next to the work of famous artists. Another example for breaking borders between teachers and students are the „Mini-Teachers“ at the University of Duisburg-Essen. „Mini teachers“ are students from a primary school in Wuppertal (Grundschule Königshöher Weg) who introduce students at the University of Duisburg-Essen in the art of producing natural colours. Another example for breaking borders in education is the cooperation between the „Villa Kunterbunt“, a daycare nursery in Dinslaken, and the vocational college of Dinslaken, where children regularly show soon-to-be pre-school teachers how to teach the production of natural colours to kindergarten kids. In Dinslaken this has become part of the regular professional training for preschool teaching. Meanwhile, by involving the citizens, the City of Dinslaken has become a „model municipality“ serving as a model for the whole region. Villa Kunterbunt decided to pass on these positive experiences to the Spatzenvilla, a new sevengardens networkpartner. Spatzenvilla is the first networkpartner in Dresden, it represents the nucleus from which sevengardens\_Dresden will evolve.

### **Formal or Nonformal?**

The principal aim of all sevingardens projects is, to offer bulding stones with which, a sustainable society can be build. „We still do not know which way will be the most effective: We do not know exactly what will happen during the climate change, how the demograpphic development will evolve and which measures can assure the quality of these activities. And we do not know either which education reform strategy will be relevant for the paradigm change of society.

Will it be the formal or the nonformal eduction or will it be both in a constant interaction? We do not know yet. This is why we practice both.

### **The methodology: rizominal, bottom-up, artistic**

Conceived as a bottom-up movement to support UNDevelopment Goals and the Earth Charter of The Hague the methodology of the art project sevingardens operates as follows:

Each participant takes part as a human being not as an institution. So people can leave any formal educational borders behind and strive together for a sustainable goal. - After having accepted the sevingardens-codex every participant can use the sevingardens branding

Anyone can use the sevingardens-logo after acceptance of the sevingarden codex as branding and thus refer to sevingardens as meta-level (open content licences).

- sevingardens is an open source system, everyone can be part of the network.

- sevingardens participates in all relevant topics of UNESCO ( ESD Decade, Biodiversity Decade, World cultural heritage, development goals, cultural diversity, Fair Trade and the Safeguarding of the **Intangible Cultural Heritage**).

- sevingardens offers multiplier programs and free dialoguer certification

### **Contence: Dyeplant gardens**

Manufacturing and subsequently using natural colours creates an ideal way of passing over the knowledge of how to handle natural ressources sustainably.

Since the times of the Neolithic period, art and creativity have always been the key to convey knowledge on sustainability.

Colour as the original mean of human communication created the foundation of the transformation of society. To produce colours together offers the chance to initiate a social transformaton process by „thinking out of the garden“.

#sevingardens