

International Safe Community (ISC) Annual Report 2009 (for past 12 months)

Demographics

Name of your ISC: Vorarlberg

Country: Austria

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Person:

Initiative Sichere Gemeinden

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Criteria 1 – Partnerships

1. Yes

2. Membership list (financial)

Land Vorarlberg und Gemeinden Vorarlbergs (Province and Communities of Vorarlberg)

Amt der Vorarlberger Landesregierung, Peter Hämmerle, peter.haemmerle@vorarlberg.at

Gemeindeamt Lochau, Xaver Sinz, xaver.sinz@lochau.cnv.at

Allgemeine Unfallversicherungsanstalt (General Accident Insurance Office)

Allgemeine Unfallversicherungsanstalt, Ing. Sebastian Dorfinger, sebastian.dorfinger@auva.at

Kuratorium für Verkehrssicherheit (Traffic Safety Board)

Kuratorium für Verkehrssicherheit, Mag. Martin Pfanner, martin.pfanner@kfv.at

For special projects additional funds are acquired!

3a.

4 meetings per year (financial members)

3b. Yes

Vorarlberg Health Insurance Centre and other Insurance Funds have left as financial members. The Province of Vorarlberg has closed the financial gap. The annual budget is still € 440,000.

Criteria 2 – Sustainable programs

4. Yes

Special focus on child safety and new activities:

- mascot called "SIGE"
- child safety "memory"
- safety songs for children

5.

- Campaign "Child-oriented – a children´s game" (target group: children)
- Freeride Safety Camps (target group: adolescents)
- Work Group Traffic Safety (target group: every age)
- Campaign "Keeping in Balance" (target group: elderly people)

Example: Freeride-Safety-Camps

In Freeride Safety Camps snowboarders and freeskiers have the opportunity to enjoy the fascination of "free riding" with professionals. The conditions that are necessary for safe sports off-slope are discussed.

Example: Work Group Traffic Safety

A prime concern of the traffic safety group is the coordination and networking of traffic safety education in Vorarlberg, from kindergarten to graduation from secondary school. To accomplish these goals a traffic safety advisory committee has been formed which meets approximately every three months to exchange ideas and experiences, to coordinate upcoming activities and to discuss new concepts. Members include the Department of Traffic of the Province of Vorarlberg, the Superintendent of Kindergartens, the Superintendent of Schools, together with district consultants, the Provincial Association of PTAs, the Teacher Training College, police, Board of Road Safety, the Austrian Automobile Club, the Austrian Automobile, Motorcycle and Bikers Association, the General Accident Insurance Prevention Office and the Safe Communities Initiative.

Example: Keeping in Balance

The socio-demographic changes in our society, along with the correlation between risk of accidental falls and their consequences among older citizens, were the chief factors which motivated our branch office, in cooperation with the Provincial Senior Citizens Office and the Institute for Social Services, to conceive of and implement the project "Keeping in Balance". With this programme the attempt has been made to utilise and network existing courses, in order to ensure their lasting and sustainable effectiveness. Examples for activities:

- Training for trainees who are particularly involved with the promotion and preservation of mobility and the minimising of the risks of accidental falls.
- The opportunity to take sight and hearing tests in the mobility groups. Optimal sight and hearing capabilities are important factors in minimising the risks of accidental falls.
- Training for physiotherapists in the area of accidental fall prevention. Providing information and raising awareness levels will lead to a networking of training course offers. Upon finishing

their physiotherapy sessions senior citizens are given recommendations about regular course offers suitable for them.

- Training plumbers and architects on the topic of "Barrier-free sanitary facilities". The expert consultant, as planner and advisor, discusses in his talks the advantages of barrier-free sanitary rooms.

- Evaluation of the risk potential of accidental falls among the participants of the mobility awareness groups. By means of a project model developed over a two-year period by Dr. Becker from Ulm/Stuttgart and Mrs. Geser-Engleitner (Technical College in Dornbirn), a standardised motoric assessment test is being used to observe and evaluate the risk of accidental falls in mobility groups.

Criteria 3 – High risk groups & environments

6.

An additional campaign has been launched "Child-oriented – a children's game".

Criteria 4 – Injury data

7. Yes

Data was sourced from hospitals by the Kuratorium für Verkehrssicherheit (Traffic Safety Board). The data has confirmed our chosen priority areas.

Criteria 5 – Evaluation

8.

- Lectures in hospitals on child safety (questionnaire)
- Winter sports helmet (observation in skiing areas)
- Campaign "Keeping in Balance" (balance tests with elderly people)

Criteria 6 – Networks

9a. Yes

For example: <http://www.adac.de/>
(we have participated in a meeting about "bicycle helmets")

9b. Yes

For example: <http://www.grosse-schuetzen-kleine.at/>
(we have participated in a meeting about "child safety")

9c. Yes

Many different possibilities in Vorarlberg for example network meetings:
child safety, wintersports safety, traffic safety...

Final comments

10.

Vorarlberg Health Insurance Centre and other Insurance Funds have left as financial members. The Province of Vorarlberg has closed the financial gap. The reorganization has been a challenge.

11.

Networking with different organizations (for example: alpine associations, dog sports club, automobile clubs, police, transportation companies, cable cars)

12.

Within the ISC network especially ISCs with similar regional structures and similar prevention topics are interesting for us (for our ISC organizations in Austria, Switzerland and Germany).