

Newsletter ^{3/99}

European Federation of City Farms

Kinderboerderijen

City Farms and
Community Gardens

*Fermes d' Animation
Educatives*

4H-garder

4H-Farms



*Kinder-, Jeugd- en
Gezinsboerderijen*

Fermes d'Enfants

*Jugendfarmen, Kinderbauernhöfe,
Aktivspielplätze*

Administrative Office
Neerhofstraat 2
B - 1700 Dilbeek
Belgium

phone: +32-2-5691445
fax: +32-2-5692651
email: efcf@vgc.be
internet: <http://efcf.vgc.be>



News from the Board

E-mail your E-mail Address!!

If your city farm has an e-mail address, you can receive the EFCF-newsletter and other important information directly. Send your cityfarms name, region, country and e-mail address to efcf@vgc.be

Link up the EFCF Website

Does your city farm have a World Wide Web site? E-mail EFCF with your Website address and we will link it to the EFCF Website <http://efcf.vgc.br>

will the promise of a commercially driven largely untested technology get out of control with nightmarish results? **Send your views to the EFCF efcf@vgc.be**

Food, Health and Nutritional education

Primary prevention of cancer by the nutritional education of children in the City Farms: description and assessment of the activities by children, educators and teachers.

The book is finished and you can order it from your national federation.
Or have a look at the ECFC-Website:
<http://www.efcf.vgc.be>

Many thanks to Danielle Marvel and Catherine Fierens

from France

In 1999, we are all invited in the region of Charentes (West of France) to discover two places of living for mental handicapped people. These two structures own their city farm. The children who are welcomed are also able to see rare species animals that they have never seen before. Trying to participate to the preservation of domestic animal biodiversity is a particularity of the french city farms.

This purpose also seems to concern the people responsible for the Granja Educative of Santiago of Chilli.

This young farm (a few months old) welcomes urban people.

The Bergerie Nationale of Rambouillet, throughout it's new department specialized in environmental education, has signed on two main purposes:

Forest an agriculture city farms

In this line, in partnership with the GIFAE and the cerel's corporation, and financially helped by the french Ministry of Environment, practical guides and pedagogical tools are going to be created.

Finally, another meeting in France will be organised for people specialized in horses:

26th – 29th of April 2000. Angers 10th international congress " It's the horse that makes the difference ".

from Norway

*We promise to work towards becoming a youth with a clear **head**, warm **heart**, clever **hands** and good **health**.*

There are at present 48 farms in our network, Forum for Norske 4H-farms (FNG). The main goal of this network is to provide the members with courses connected with running city farms (educational farms). The courses have themes such as security and health issues, driving with horse drawn carts, milk processing and educational science.

The network is also important for putting pressure on politicians and financial authorities for gaining more resources for improved activities on the farms. We hope that the authorities will in time discover the resources these farms have to offer, and that this will lead to more financial support for salaries, as is the case for school teachers.

The farms are divided in three groups:

4H-farms (4H-gårder): Open farms with activities for school classes, kindergartens, private groups and 4H-members. There are fourteen 4H-farms in Norway. They are for the most part connected to cities or towns. They give special attention to children who do not have any connections with farm animals and agriculture, or who not know much about where our food comes from. 4H-farms give children the opportunity of developing into whole people, with an awareness of nature, culture and people.

4H-farms can be run privately, or by municipal or county authorities. Norske 4H is responsible for the approval of the farms. There are strict requirements to security, animal welfare, educational aspects and general impressions.

Open farms: These are almost the same as 4H-farms but without their formal status.

Holiday farms: Farms that accommodate children for several days at a time. The young visitors live with the host family as family members. The visit is usually for five days, but can be longer. This holiday concept is increasing in Norway today. There is a broader involvement in working for the welfare of young children. At a time when there is a deficiency of time and surplus energy to give children enough care, a stay on a small farm where time is spent together with adults can be very useful. The families and their young visitors eat, work and play together, and in a safe and friendly environment.

Norske 4H is currently working on a project looking into the farm-holiday offer for children as a possible new niche for small farms who are finding it difficult to survive in the modern day farming market in Norway.

Please contact Norske 4H, postboks 113, N-2026 Skjetten, norske4h@n4h.no for more information.

from the Netherlands

In the last newsletter the Dutch federation was rightly reprimanded for not sending any news. Of course there is news from the Netherlands, however not very spectacular. Finally the 1999 edition of the "Blue Booklet" (the EFCF information booklet), was finished. During the Berlin conference it will be handed to the member federations and to a representative of a county that is not (yet) a member of the EFCF.

The Dutch EFCF working group that edited the booklet sincerely hopes that it will contribute to the forming of national federations in countries which, for lack of a federation, cannot be a member of the EFCF.

The forming of network is not only important because it gives you fresh ideas, possibilities and shows you different ways of handling your work, it also shows local, national and European authorities that the work has an enormous impact on people who make use of it and therefore deserves very support that it can get. Many good ideas and practises from abroad have been successfully introduced in the Netherlands, for instance the "Brique d'Or" concept from Bourbourg. Mentally handicapped people conduct school programmes. O.K. no more typical Dutch lectures about what other people should do. In fact, at this moment the Dutch federation itself is quite busy with the future. A concept policy plan for the next few years is being discussed right now by the farms that are linked to the federation. The plan deals with a lot of issues concerning the ever changing society and the role of the city farm in these developments. Is there a need for a wider range of possibilities? If so, what is possible and how can farmworkers be trained to deal with these changes. There is still no news about the Rotterdam European Conference in 2001. We hope to let you know during the conference in Berlin.

from Germany

anima 21 - european conference 19 - 26 September in Berlin

Anima 21 – Contributions of Adventure Playgrounds and City Farms towards sustainable development

Under this motto the Bund der Jugendfarmen together with the Association of Adventure Playgrounds and Children Farms in Berlin (AKiB) organised a European conference from 19th to 26th September 1999. Altogether close to 100 visitors from 17 to 65 years old coming from 14 countries attended the event which took place in the Berlin district of Köpenick. Some 20% of the participants were volunteer workers in their projects and women had a slight majority in the overall attendance. The conference which in various ways stood in the tradition of EFCF conferences for the first time included participants from adventure playgrounds in England, Austria and Switzerland. Other countries represented were: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Spain as well as guests from Bielorrussia, Ukraine and USA.

Experience diversity, discover common grounds, strengthen cooperation

When colleagues from so many different countries meet, everybody wants to get to know something of the diversity of the work of the other projects and exchange practical experience. Accordingly the program contained a variety of topics and different ways to approach them. Apart from lectures, workshops and excursions to the city there were also participatory activities in local projects and opportunities for participants to do their own presentations be it slide shows, films or a computer aided multimedia presentation. A special evening under the motto „Beyond European borders“ gave our new friends from Kiev, Minsk and North Carolina an opportunity to talk about their work. A big playfair was staged to conclude the conference. This was made possible through the help of participants as well as local projects. Overall some 2.000 visitors, mostly children and young families from all over Berlin attended it and got a first hand impression of the exciting world of European adventure play and city farm work. As we found in various discussions and through evaluation sheets handed in by participants it was possible not only to experience the diversity, but beyond that to discover a lot of common ground and develop the consciousness that strengthening European cooperation in the future is a necessity.

One common ground was the „Leitmotiv“ of sustainable development, which was presented in an excellent lecture by Ernst Ulrich Weizsäcker to name just one speaker.

The vast economical, ecological and sociocultural changes brought about through globalization processes were also addressed in lectures on perspectives of professional youth and social work, new models of volunteering and challenges of intercultural work. Workshops on health promotion, local agenda 21, participation of children and young people, as well as working with animals deepened the thoughts of lectures and gave chances for exchange of practical work experiences. Other themes were permaculture planning and design methods, creative presentation of our work in public as well as a variety of themes connected to service profiles of adventure playgrounds and city farms including youth and community oriented enterprises and LETS schemes.

Although a whole week seemed to be very much time for the conference in the beginning. Most participants insisted they would have liked to have even more of certain facets of the conference in the end. Be patient: the next conference will be in Rotterdam in 2001. A detailed documentation on anima 21 will be available soon.

The participants evaluation is already summarised - you can read it in english from page 5 to 11 and in german language from page 12 to 18 in this newsletter.

Youth for Europe

phone and fax of the national offices „youth for europe“:
Contact them for informations about european programs:

Belgium:	phone	+32-2-2190906
	fax	+32-2-2188108
Denmark:	phone	+45-33-142060
	fax	+45-33-143640
Germany	phone	+49-228-9506213
	fax	+49-228-9506222
France	phone	+33-1-39172770
	fax	+33-1-39172790
Netherland	phone	+31-30-2306550
	fax	+31-30-2306540
UK	phone	+44-171-3894030
	fax	+44-171-3894033
Sweden	phone	+46-8-201980
	fax	+46-8-203530
Norway	phone	+47-22-670043
	fax	+47-22-686808
Italy	phone	+39-6-3236218
	fax	+39-6-3233552
Greece	phone	+30-1-2531349
	fax	+30-1-2531420

No News

No news from Sweden, from Denmark, from Belgium, from UK!

Next Newsletter

Copy dead-line for the next newsletter is **15-11-1999**

Please send all your text by email or send a disk in word-format or rtf-format to our office in Stuttgart - we don't want to type your text.

Bund der Jugendfarmen und Aktivspielplätze e.V.
Haldenwies 14
D - 70567 Stuttgart / Germany
email: bdja@bdja.org
internet: www.bdja.org

CONFERENCE EVALUATION

1. Comment on the balance of time invested in different parts of the conference:

	too much	o.k.	not enough
Lectures	10	16	-
Workshops	4	10	12
Local activities	3	11	12
Social events	1	20	5
Exchange with other participants	-	17	9
Explore the city	-	11	15
Overall counts	18	85	53

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

We have tried to include some new features to our conference compared to previous EFCF conferences, like a stronger emphasis on local activities, participatory events (including the playfair, which was also directed towards public recognition of our work) and possibilities to explore the city (boat trip and free afternoon). It seems like not only were these features welcomed, but also participants wanted even more of that. The overall counts indicate, that the majority of participants decided, that we had achieved a good balance in the program. 7 hours for lectures and presentations, 10 hours for workshops and 6 hours for local activities didn't seem too much for us. The remarks on too much time for these parts seemed to be rooted more in the (bad) quality of some of them. If a lot of people demand even more time investment in certain parts, this could only be achieved through a more tight or dirigistic organisation (which we doubt many people would appreciate) and a centralization of events and lodging, since most people would not want to invest more than one week (See below).

2. Considering the different expectations mentioned above, do you think the conference

was:

	Too long	Just right	Not long enough
	12	13	1

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

The split vote on overall time invested underlines the above mentioned paradox, that many people want to have more time invested in specific parts, but not overall. Since there are different interests everybody will have to tolerate a little „time waste“. If participants are coming well prepared (having studied the program carefully beforehand) and are flexibel, they will think of things to use spare time effectively for contacts etc. We still think overall one week is not a bad time frame. If we had limited the conference to four days (as sometimes suggested), we would have lost some of the most exciting events, like the boat tour, activities in local projects and the playfair. It is true, that we lost a lot of time by travelling, but we were restricted in our choices on conference site and lodging and Berlin just is a big city. Also we tried to make the conference a participatory event (presentations by participants, playfair), which always takes a little more time to arrange and get going. We think it was worth investing more time.

3. Which parts of the conference were most valuable to you?

Local activities	13
Visits to different projects / farms	9
Exchange with other participants	9
Workshops	7
Lectures	5
Playfair / Social events	4
Boat trip	1
Samba party	1
Number of choices	49

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

This shows again, that it was a good idea to give more time for getting into contact with local projects (not just in a superficial round-trip way). Out of these contacts plans for future youth exchanges developed with two projects and partner projects in Belgium and England. The relative low impact of lectures we consider not as a vote against more theoretical parts in general. We think there is some language problems involved and also not everybody is interested in all topics. On the other hand this was a chance to get a little distance from practical problems and worries of daily work and expose oneself to thoughts, that otherwise one would not have encountered. The speakers were not all our first or best choices for this occasion, but we think they all had something valuable to contribute. Originally we had intended to hand out copies of the manuscripts. Unfortunately most of the manuscripts didn't arrive in time. They are now part of our documentation. It is interesting to see that our extra-events (boat-trip, Samba party and playfair) also got mentioned.

4. Did the conference meet your expectations?

	Yes (& more)	Partially	No
	18	5	2

Comments on expectations:

- I decided to leave local activities to visit other projects
- It was my first conference – I didn't know, what it would be like
- It was very interesting and I am very happy
- Yes, as far as planning and organization is concerned
- No proper introduction of participants and federations, EFCF had a low profile
- Hostel was too „poshy“ I wouldn't have minded sleeping in hey with sleeping bag
- I would have liked to see more of local playgrounds
- This will be tested later (relevance to our work, sustainability of new contacts)
- My workshop and local activity were disappointing, we made our own visits
- Very much exchange, many discoveries in Berlin, good vibes, low tech-high tech network
- Too little order
- Gathered lots of ideas, interesting topics and people, good atmosphere
- Workshops and lectures too general and not suitable for „experienced“ participants
- The information I had before was not enough to form an expectation
- I really enjoyed it – you had a lot of good ideas
- I thought I would get more practical information / skills, level too low for „experienced“
- I would have preferred that visits were better organized for everybody

- Lectures were too general, local activities were too practical
- No only because I had no preconceived ideas about the conference
- Good mix of playwork and city farms
- It is really important to stay in contact to people working same job all over Europe

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

Trying to make it right to everybody is not an easy job and whoever has organized a conference before knows that. Considering the variety of people, old and young, professional workers and volunteers, play workers and city farm staff and last not least the fact, that most preparational work was done on a voluntary base, we were really happy to see that the conference met most participants' expectations (and more).

5. Comments on the performance of the conference staff:

- Too bossy at times & could have been more helpful. Some people were o.k. but at times I would question their agenda
- Very good, very friendly, very flexible in meeting unexpected requests
- Jong end wild
- Hard working, but there seemed to be some miscommunications sometimes
- Congratulations, not everything was o.k. but it was a difficult job
- You are all super
- They were all great
- Excellent, dedicated beyond the call of duty and on the whole very successful (Why not a list of staff names, roles and how they fit into the structure in Berlin?)
- Good boys sometimes missing
- Very helpful and friendly
- Very helpful, but I didn't know who was responsible for what in the beginning
- You should have been more strict to the participants about beginning of events, also more clear announcements about what is going to happen
- Difficult and complex job done with committment and helpful friendliness, sometimes lack of communication
- O.K.
- Excellent – you handled all situations extremely well, thank you and well done
- It must have been a night mare to organize – I take my hat off to them
- Positive. Especially Mike Primarolo
- Good organization, allways ready to help and adopt to participants' wishes
- Very open and flexible, good organisation
- Very well organized and always helpful
- Excellent
- Very good, great team
- Friendly men and women with mostly patient and smiling faces

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

Thank (most of) you very much for the flowers! There were indeed some problems in communication within the team, but this is almost inevitable with so many volunteers involved, who by the way are working in a project, have a family etc. etc. We tried to make up with humour and committment for the lack of professionalism and apparently it worked. Our comment on participants in return: Good mixture, overall very cooperative and thankful. A partial desinterest shown by some towards the program was far outweighed by enthusiasm and willingness to enter new terrain by most of you.

We realize, we should have spent more time in the beginning to introduce staff, to make general explanations for newcomers and last not least, how important it is to hand back evaluation papers!

6. Comments on the location of the event:

- Too large, split up the conference, too long walking distances
- Too far away from the city and the transport was bad, you do not feel in Berlin
- Good location and facilities, but a little too warm
- Wonderful site, I loved that there was lots of people around all the time
- Superb facility, but sometimes too isolated
- Good location, but hard to get there from the center of the city
- Very nice and interesting place
- It wasn't a problem for me to get mixed up with people who were not here for the conference
- It would have been better to have all people at the same sleeping place
- An amazing place, maybe a little big, The use of a bicycle would have been good
- Do they have heating control? It was always too warm especially during lectures
- Bad air in the FEZ, but nice in the local project
- Sleeping places too far away from the conference area
- Different sites too far spread apart, takes too much energy and information and transport
- Main building and hostel was lacking positive atmosphere and quiet informal gathering places, but wonderful surroundings
- Inside too warm, but nice space and nature around
- Unfriendly place to arrive at and insufficient directions, but once we were there it was alright
- Remote and forbidding for the first days, but it „grew on us“. We needed better instructions for arrival. It would have been good to have a shop to buy things (films, postage stamps) and better transport access for free time activities
- Too long distance between lodging and the event made many people never come in time
- It would have been better to have all people in the same hostel
- Fine place, large enough

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

The split-up of lodging places and conference site was indeed our biggest problem. To arrange for transports cost us a lot of nerves and energy that could have been invested better in the program or personal contacts. We hope to find a better solution next time. On the other hand we were provided with a lot of technical assistance, that would have been extremely costly to provide in other conference sites and we had a very nice location for the playfair. A site more close to the center would probably have cost a lot of „night life victims“ (no closing hours in local bars) and waiting time for those, who were in time for the sessions. We learned however, that more precise information about how to get to the site is necessary.

7. Comments on the food offered:

- Very good vegetarian meals
- Very bad, I lost 5 kg
- Allright
- Bad except first day and on Kollé 37
- Very good
- Not the best, but good enough
- Mostly fine, insufficient protein and fruit for vegetarians
- Good
- Good attempt on vegetarian food, but too low on protein content

- Adequate for the group
- Good-very good
- It would have been nice to have something on arrival
- O.K
- Could have been more choice
- The vegetarian meals were sometimes too small
- Good quality and taste (Italian people need more bread and olive oil..and caffè espresso)
- Nice vegetarian meals
- Really good, also for vegetarian meals
- Acceptable, but not enough choices

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

Given the variety of tastes and the limits of our price calculation it was the best we could arrange. We would have liked to sell cheaper drinks ourselves, but we were not allowed to do so. Perhaps we will try to find a conference site with an espresso bar nearby next time.

8. Comment on the lodging:

- People I feel were treated badly, could not relax, no privacy and space, we were treated like sheep, accomodation took all energy from people
- O.K. for the price
- All should be in one house for better exchange and to cut down transport problems
- Great accomodation, but should have included all participants
- Clean and sufficient
- It was very exciting to meet wild pigs there, good breakfast
- Problems with just having one key for all
- Clean and good breakfast
- Satisfactory choice, but prewarning would have been helpful
- Too many people in one room for so many days, we could rather pay a bit more
- Beautiful surrounding, but not communicative and cosy at all
- Not enough warm water for shower for all (Forsthaus)
- Would have been nice to know about standard of lodging in advance
- Good
- Location fine, but we would have appreciated towels and coffee/tea making facilities
- Front door locking system inefficient and dangerous
- From invitation and fee I didn't expect more – It was acceptable
- It was too „poshy“. I wouldn't have minded to sleep in a hey hostel with my sleeping bag
- Alright, but not enough toilets and showers
- O.K. but one key is not enough for whole group
- Very good

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

Dispite heavy critics in the beginning the overall evaluation showed that the lodging wasn't that bad. As one participant put it: From invitation and fee you could tell, what to expect and most participants felt it was sufficient. So do we. We decided from the beginning, that we didn't want to arrange different price class lodgings for different participants, but we accepted if participants decided to arrange it for themselves. Only one person was asking about it before hand and decided to look for a hotel, but in the end she couldn't make it to the conference for other reasons. Another problem we encountered was that we had many very late inscriptions. Until about a month before the conference we didn't know, if we had to arrange for 50 or 100 participants, which makes it

difficult to arrange accomodation. If you want to support the next organizing committee, don't wait ,until the last minute to register! Then it will be easier to provide information on lodging conditions as well.

9. Further comments or suggestions to improve future conferences:

- Look at relevance and time of lectures, lodgings for all in one place
- More relaxed programme
- More information on lectures in advance and more contacts with local projects
- The playfair was a great idea
- More participative sessions, no lectures immediately after meals
- More visits to city farms
- More presentation of national federations and the EFCF (It was my first conference)
- The programme was too intensive, more breaks would have helped
- More plenary sessions and planned visits to local projects (more than one)
- It was good that there was no dead time
- I'm working hard in my country. Compared to this I felt, that there was a lot of loose time
- More information beforehand
- If playgrounds are to be invited in future events, some workshops and lectures should also adress the „play topic“, The conference information should be clearer
- Everybody should be together and visits to different project part of regular programme
- Shorter in time and more visits to city farms
- The boat trip was a very good idea
- I was lost in the playfair, because I felt, noone was in charge
- Structured and unstructured, formal and informal time should be spread more evenly
- The presentation of conference should have given more weight and attracted more media / tv , also included children from local projects
- More shorter workshops and local activities
- Too much hanging around friday and saturday
- More space for local activities; visits, boat trip was a great idea and should be repeated
- Very successful playfair, but those involved had no chance to visit others
- Speakers should talk slower, lodging not so far away from conference site
- Better introduction of all people, more coffee / tea breaks, if necessary raise fees
- Make more workshops and more local activities
- Offer opportunity to hear different workshops from other countries, the opportunity to present information to the whole group and then have time to debate and discuss
- Start time should be between 10-10:30 a.m. and finish 4-5 p.m. evening activities start 8 p.m
- Opportunity to visit more city farms and adventure playgrounds

Outcome of organizing committee discussion and suggestions for future conferences:

A conference site, which provides for all: Enough space and technical equipment for lectures and workshops including simultaneous translation facilities as well as comfortable lodging with possibilities to prepare own tea/coffee, good quality food, shops, a cosy bar with expresso machine and close access to down town as well as to all local projects and everything for an affordable price would be the best choice, but it will be hard to arrange in reality. Participants will probably face the fact that also future conferences will always be compromises in the features of the site.

As far as the program is concerned, we suggest to do the local activities in one block from morning to evening and offer an organized visit to different places as well, perhaps in connection with a tour through the city (or a boat trip, if there is water). A lot depends on the weather of course. We were

really lucky with this. It will always demand a choice however if you want to concentrate and get to know somebody or something in depth, or if you want to have as many different impressions as possible with no time for relations to build up.

We think the time spent in one workshop should not be reduced, to ensure the development of workable group atmosphere and enough time for exchange of practical experiences, but it is important to take a very good look at the qualification and experience of workshop presentors / moderators. Same is true for local activities. If good things happen, time will always be running too quick, if bad things happen, everybody would have liked to have more choices.

As for the lectures, it is hard to tell what is relevant to whom in advance. We think it is good to provide a variety of topics and leave it to the participants to decide. We had planned to provide more information and asked the speakers to hand in manuscripts two weeks in advance. This didn't work out and we had little more information but the title, which we had already sent to participants upon inscription. We advise future organizers to ask speakers for abstracts in advance.

We strongly recommend to pick up the participatory features of the conference in future like presentations and discussion groups held by participants and outdoor events like the playfair. We know that this means a lot more preparational work, but the spread of e-mail access will help a lot with quick and cheap communication and it gives the conference a much more cooperative atmosphere.

This works only however, if participants and organisations are willing to contribute. If we all get used to the idea, that conferences are not just consumist events, everything will be alright. On the other hand we need not have every aspect of European play or city farm work in every conference. It is o.k. for every organizing committee to set a certain emphasis. As people come more regularly to the conferences they will gradually get a deeper understanding of the diversity of our projects.

We suggest to go on with the cooperation and communication between adventure playgrounds and city farms on the European level. We have many things in common and we can also still learn a lot from each other. We would welcome it, if playworkers were also invited to the next conference and we will be happy to contribute the necessary addresses.

It will not be avoidable to have some people feel stressed by the full program, while others think there are too many „loose ends“ or too much „dead time“. Let's appreciate the diversity!

KONGRESS EVALUATION

1. Bewertung des Zeitaufwandes für verschiedene Teile des Programmes:

	zu viel	o.k.	nicht genug
Vorträge	10	16	-
Workshops	4	10	12
Dezentrale Aktivitäten	3	11	12
Geselligkeit	1	20	5
Austausch mit anderen TeilnehmerInnen	-	17	9
Kennenlernen der Stadt	-	11	15
Angaben insgesamt	18	85	53

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Wir haben versucht abweichend von früheren EFCF-Konferenzen neue Programmteile einzuführen. So wurde der Schwerpunkt mehr auf den Austausch mit örtlichen Einrichtungen und auf partizipative Angebote wie beispielsweise die Präsentationen am Montag abend und das Spielfest gelegt. Außerdem wollten wir mehr Zeit einräumen um die Stadt bzw. verschiedene Einrichtungen kennenzulernen. Den Ergebnissen der Fragebögen nach zu urteilen, wurden diese Angebote nicht nur gern aufgegriffen. Tatsächlich wollten viele sogar noch mehr davon. Die Gesamtheit der Angaben legt allerdings nahe, daß ein Großteil der TeilnehmerInnen die Programmgestaltung als ausgewogen empfand. Die „negative“ Bewertung klassischer Kongress-Elemente (Vorlesungen, Workshops) führen wir eher auf teilweise mißlungene Einzelveranstaltungen zurück, als auf eine prinzipielle Bewertung der Veranstaltungsform. Ein Mehr an einzelnen Teilen dagegen wäre nur auf Kosten einer strafferen, dirigistischeren Programmführung oder durch andere logistische Umstände (zentrale Unterkunft in der Nähe des FEZ Hauptgebäudes) erreicht worden, da wenige TeilnehmerInnen bereit gewesen wären insgesamt mehr Zeit für den Kongress aufzuwenden.

2. In Anbetracht der unterschiedlichen Ansprüche an den Kongress, dauerte dieser

	zu lang	lang genug	nicht lang genug
	12	13	1

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Die stark vertretene Meinung, dass der Kongress zu lang war erscheint zunächst paradox, angesichts der obigen Antworten, erklärt sich aber dadurch, dass unterschiedliche TeilnehmerInnen unterschiedliche Interessen haben und jeweils nur für bestimmte Teile des Programmes mehr Zeit investieren würden. Wir denken immer noch, daß eine Woche ein angemessener Zeitrahmen war. Ein gewisses Maß an „toter Zeit“ lässt sich nie ganz vermeiden, zumal wenn partizipative Prozesse gewollt sind. Wer gut vorbereitet zum Kongress kommt und flexibel genug ist, wird die Zeit zwischen den „interessanten“ Programmteilen auch effektiv nutzen können. Bei einer Beschränkung des Zeitbudgets auf vier Tage hätten wir voraussichtlich auf solche Teile verzichtet, die von vielen als sehr gelungen bezeichnet wurden: Die Bootsfahrt, selbstorganisierte Besuche der Einrichtungen und das Spielfest. Den Zeitverlust durch Transporte konnten wir leider nicht vermeiden.

3. Welche Teile des Kongresses waren am wertvollsten?

Dezentrale Aktivitäten	13
Besuche unterschiedlicher Einrichtungen	9
Austausch mit anderen TeilnehmerInnen	9
Workshops	7
Vorträge	5
Spielfest / gesellige Abende	4
Exkursion mit dem Schiff	1
Samba Party	1
Angaben insgesamt	49

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Dies bestätigt, dass es eine gute Idee war nicht nur oberflächliche Besuche zu den Einrichtungen zu machen, sondern mehr Gelegenheit zu einem Austausch mit den hiesigen KollegInnen anzubieten. Daraus entstanden in zwei Fällen Pläne für einen Jugendaustausch mit Partner-Projekten in Belgien und England. Der geringe Eindruck, den die Vorträge hinterlassen haben erklärt sich unserer Meinung nach zum Teil aus sprachlichen Schwierigkeiten, zum Teil aus unterschiedlichen inhaltlichen Interessen. Einige fanden die Darstellungen auch zu theoretisch. Wir denken aber es sollte auch die Möglichkeit geben, etwas Distanz zu alltäglichen bzw. praktischen Problemen zu bekommen und sich selbst Gedanken auszusetzen, mit denen zu beschäftigen sonst selten Zeit bleibt. Wir fanden alle Beiträge auf ihre Art wertvoll. Ursprünglich war geplant schriftliche Manuskripte zu den Vorträgen auszuteilen, mußten aber wegen der damit verbundenen Mehrkosten (zusätzliche Honorarforderungen der Referenten) davon Abstand nehmen. Der volle Wortlaut der Vorträge wird aber Teil der Dokumentation sein. Interessanterweise wurden auch die Exkursion, die Samba Party und das Spielfest als „wertvollste Beiträge“ genannt

4. Entsprach der Kongress deinen / ihren Erwartungen?

	ja (& mehr)	teilweise	nein
	18	5	2

Kommentare der TeilnehmerInnen:

- Ich habe mich von der dezentralen Aktivität abgesetzt um andere Projekte zu besichtigen
- Es war mein erster derartiger Kongress – ich hatte keine besonderen Erwartungen
- Es war sehr interessant und ich bin froh (dabei gewesen zu sein)
- Ja, was Planung und Organisation anbelangt
- Keine angemessene Vorstellung von TeilnehmerInnen und Organisationen
- Ich hätte mir gerne noch mehr Projekte angeschaut
- Das wird sich noch herausstellen (Auswirkung auf die Arbeit, Folgekontakte)
- Mein Workshop und die dezentrale Aktion waren eher enttäuschend
- Sehr viel Austausch, viele Entdeckungen in Berlin
- Nicht genug Ordnung
- Wir haben viele Ideen gesammelt, interessante Themen und Menschen, gute Atmosphäre
- Workshops und Vorträge waren zu allgemein und für „alte Hasen“ ungeeignet
- Die Information die ich vorher hatte reichte nicht um eine Erwartung zu entwickeln
- Ich habe es genossen – ihr hattet/sie hatten viele gute Ideen
- Ich dachte ich würde mehr praktische Informationen bekommen / Fähigkeiten entwickeln

- Die Besuche bei verschiedenen Einrichtungen sollten besser und für alle organisiert werden
- Die Vorträge waren zu theoretisch, die dezentralen Aktionen zu praktisch
- Nein, weil ich eigentlich keine genauen Vorstellungen davon hatte
- Gute Mischung aus Themen von Abenteuerspielplätzen und Kinder- bzw. Stadteilfarmen
- Es ist wichtig, dass wir auf europäischer Ebene weiter in Kontakt bleiben

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Alle, die schon mal einen Kongress organisiert haben wissen, dass es nicht leicht ist, es allen recht zu machen. In Anbetracht der großen Vielfalt an TeilnehmerInnen, jung und alt, professionell und ehrenamtlich, aus unterschiedlichen Einrichtungsformen und nicht zuletzt der Tatsache, dass der größte Teil der Vorbereitungen auf ehrenamtlicher Basis lief sind wir froh, zu sehen, dass wir die Erwartungen der meisten TeilnehmerInnen erfüllen konnten.

5. Kommentar zur Leistung des Organisations-Komitees:

- Manchmal etwas bevormundend und ich würde die Tagesordnung gelegentlich anzweifeln
- Sehr gut, sehr freundlich und flexibel in der Befriedigung unerwarteter Ansprüche
- Jung und wild
- Harte Arbeit, es schien gelegentlich Missverständnisse zu geben
- Glückwunsch, nicht alles war o.k. aber es war ein schwieriger Job
- Ihr seid alle super
- Sie waren alle großartig
- Ausgezeichnet, engagiert weit über das „Pflichtprogramm“ hinaus
- Gute Jungs – manchmal abwesend
- Sehr hilfreich und freundlich
- Sehr hilfreich, aber ich wusste am Anfang nicht genau, wer für was zuständig war
- Was den Beginn der Veranstaltungen anbelangt hättet ihr strenger mit den TeilnehmerInnen umgehen sollen, es gab auch zu wenig klare Ansagen zum Ablauf
- Schwieriger und komplexer Job mit Engagement und hilfreicher Freundlichkeit erledigt
- O.K.
- Ausgezeichnet – Ihr habt alle Situationen gut gemeistert – danke und gut gemacht
- Das muss ein organisatorischer Albtraum gewesen sein – ich ziehe meinen Hut davor
- Positiv – vor allem Mike Primarolo
- Gute Organisation, immer hilfsbereit und anpassungsfähig an die Wünsche der TeilnehmerInnen
- Sehr offen und flexibel, gute Organisation
- Sehr gut organisiert und immer hilfreich
- Ausgezeichnet
- Sehr gut, großartiges Team
- Freundliche Männer und Frauen, meist mit geduldigen und freundlichen Gesichtern

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Danke für die Blumen - Ihr wart ein gut gemischtes, kooperatives und dankbares Publikum !

6. Kommentar zum Tagungsort

- Zu gross und räumlich zerrissen, zu lange Fusswege
- Zu weit weg vom Stadtzentrum und schlechte Verkehrsverbindungen
- Guter Veranstaltungsort, aber ein wenig zu warm
- Wundervolle Anlage, es war schön, dass immer viele Menschen um uns waren

- Eindrucksvoll, aber etwas zu isoliert gelegen
- Guter Ort, aber schwer vom Zentrum aus zu erreichen
- Sehr netter und interessanter Platz
- Es war kein Problem sich mit Leuten zu mischen, die nicht wegen der Konferenz kamen
- Ein erstaunlicher Platz, vielleicht etwas zu groß, Fahrräder wären hilfreich gewesen
- Haben sie dort keine Temperaturregler? Es war immer zu heiß v.a. bei den Vorträgen
- Schlechte Luft im FEZ aber gut in den örtlichen Einrichtungen
- Die Unterkunft war zu weit entfernt vom Tagungsort
- Die Aufteilung der Unterkünfte / Transport verschlang zu viel Zeit und Energie
- Das Hauptgebäude und die dortigen Unterkünfte waren nicht besonders gemütlich, es fehlte an kleinen informellen Treffpunkten, schöne Grünanlage
- Es war zu warm, aber die Umgebung und die Natur waren schön
- Ein zunächst unfreundlich wirkender Platz, aber wir haben uns daran gewöhnt
- Abgelegen und abweisend am Anfang, wir hätten bessere Wegbeschreibungen gebraucht, es fehlte auch an Einkaufsmöglichkeiten (Filme, Briefmarken etc) und guten Verkehrsverbindungen
- Die weiten Entfernungen waren oft ein Grund für unpünktliches Erscheinen
- Angenehmer Platz und groß genug

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Die Aufteilung der Unterkünfte und die weite Entfernung zum Hauptgebäude war tatsächlich unser größtes Problem. Das Arrangieren von Transporten hat uns viel Nerven und Energie gekostet, die wir lieber in andere Teile des Programmes investiert hätten. Wir hoffen nächstes mal eine bessere Lösung zu finden. Andererseits hatten wir im FEZ sehr viel hilfreiche Unterstützung.

7. Kommentar zur Verpflegung

- Sehr gute vegetarische Kost
- Sehr schlecht, ich habe 5kg verloren
- Angemessen
- Schlecht, außer am ersten Abend und bei Kofle 37
- Sehr gut
- Nicht das beste, aber gut genug
- Überwiegend gut, zu wenig Obst und Proteine für die Vegetarier
- Gut
- Guter Versuch, was die vegetarische Küche anbelangt, aber zu wenig Proteingehalt
- Den Umständen entsprechend gut
- Gut-sehr gut
- Es wäre schön gewesen gleich bei der Ankunft etwas zu essen zu bekommen
- O.K
- Es hätte mehr Auswahl geben können
- Die vegetarischen Gerichte waren manchmal zu klein
- Gute Qualität und guter Geschmack (wir Italiener brauchen mehr Brot, Olivenöl und sind abhängig von Espresso)
- Nette vegetarische Gerichte
- Wirklich gut auch die vegetarischen Gerichte
- Akzeptabel aber zu wenig Auswahl

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

In Anbetracht der unterschiedlichen Geschmäcker und des gegebenen Finanzrahmens war es

das beste, was wir bieten konnten. Wir werden nächstes mal versuchen ein Restaurant mit Espresso-Bar zu finden...

8. Kommentar zur Unterkunft

- Ich hatte das Gefühl, die Leute wurden schlecht behandelt, wir kamen uns vor wie Schafe, hatten keine Privatsphäre und die Unterkunft verschlang unsere ganze Energie
- O.K. für den Preis
- Alle hätten am gleich Ort untergebracht werden sollen
- Großartige Unterkunft, hätte aber alle TeilnehmerInnen einschließen sollen
- Sauber und ausreichend
- Es war spannend dort Wildschweine zu beobachten, gutes Frühstück
- Ein Problem war, dass pro Zimmer nur ein Schlüssel für alle zur Verfügung stand
- Sauber und gutes Frühstück
- Befriedigende Auswahl, aber eine Vorwarnung wäre angebracht gewesen
- Zu viele Leute in einem Zimmer, wir hätten lieber etwas mehr bezahlt für kleinere Zimmer
- Schöne Umgebung, aber nicht besonders gemütlich
- Nicht genug warmes Wasser in der Dusche für alle (Forsthaus)
- Der Standard der Unterkünfte hätte vorher bekannt sein müssen
- Gut
- Der Ort war gut, aber Handtücher wären schön gewesen und eine Teeküche
- Das Türschliesssystem war sehr unbefriedigend (Forsthaus)
- Nach der Ausschreibung und dem Preis war nichts anderes zu erwarten – es war akzeptabel
- Das Hostel war „Luxus“. Ich hätte auch gerne mit Schlafsack im Heu geschlafen
- In Ordnung, aber zu wenig Toiletten und Duschen
- O.K. aber ein Schlüssel für alle pro Zimmer ist nicht genug
- Sehr gut

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Trotz der großen Kritik am Anfang des Kongresses zeigte die Evaluation, dass die Unterkünfte im Urteil der TeilnehmerInnen nicht so schlecht waren, wie wir anfänglich annahmen. Es ist tatsächlich so, daß in diesem Preisrahmen nichts besseres hätte angeboten werden können. Die meisten fanden, daß es ausreichte und wir denken das auch. Wir haben uns recht früh dazu entschieden, keine unterschiedlichen Preisklassen anzubieten, hatten aber auch keine Einwände, wenn sich TagungsteilnehmerInnen selbst um bessere Unterkünfte bemühte. Nur eine Teilnehmerin informierte uns vorab darüber, dass sie sich selber ein Hotel suchen will. Sie konnten dann aber aus anderen Gründen nicht am Kongress teilnehmen. Ein >Problem hatten wir mit den späten Anmeldungen. Bis ungefähr einen Monat vor Kongressbeginn hatten wir keine Ahnung, ob 50 oder 100 TeilnehmerInnen zum Kongress kommen würden, was die Reservierung der Unterkünfte schwierig machte. Wir empfehlen allen TeilnehmerInnen für künftige Veranstaltungen sich frühzeitig (vor)anzumelden. Dann wird es für die jeweiligen Organisatoren auch einfacher sein befriedigende Unterkünfte anzubieten.

9. Allgemeine Kommentare und Vorschläge zur Verbesserung künftiger Veranstaltungen

- Relevanz und Zeitpunkt der Vorträge im Auge behalten
- Entspannteres Programm
- Mehr vorzeitige Informationen zu den Vorträgen
- Das Spielfest war eine großartige Idee
- Mehr partizipative Angebote, keine Vorträge gleich nach dem Essen
- Mehr Besuche in örtlichen Einrichtungen
- Mehr Präsentationen der Dachverbände (Insbesondere des EFCF)
- Das Programm war zu intensiv, mehr Pausen wären gut gewesen

- Mehr Plenums-Sitzungen und mehr Besuche bei örtlichen Einrichtungen
- Es war gut, dass es keine tote Zeit gab
- Ich arbeite hart in meinem Land, verglichen damit gab es zu viel Leerlauf
- Mehr vorab Informationen über das Programm
- Wenn Abenteuerspielplätze auch in Zukunft eingeladen werden, sollten auch mehr spezifische „Spiel“themen im Programm sein
- Besuche bei unterschiedlichen Einrichtungen sollten ein Teil des Programmes sein
- Kürzeres Programm und mehr Besuche bei den Einrichtungen
- Die Exkursion mit dem Schiff war eine großartige Idee
- Ich kam mir beim Spielfest etwas verloren vor, weil ich nicht wußte wer zuständig war
- Strukturierte und unstrukturierte, formelle und informelle Zeit sollte gleichmäßiger verteilt sein
- Die Präsentation des Kongresses sollte unter Beteiligung von Kindern geschehen und mit mehr Medienpräsenz verbunden sein
- Mehr, aber kürzere Workshops und dezentrale Aktionen
- Zu viel Leerlauf am Freitag und Samstag
- Mehr Zeit für dezentrale Aktionen, die Exkursion mit dem Schiff sollte wiederholt werden
- Sehr erfolgreiches Spielfest, aber die wir sollten die Möglichkeit haben andere zu besuchen
- Die Referenten sollten langsamer sprechen, Unterkunft nicht so weit weg vom Tagungsort
- Bessere Vorstellung der TeilnehmerInnen, mehr Tee- und Kaffeepausen
- Mehr Workshops und dezentrale Aktionen
- Mehr Gelegenheiten an Präsentationen aus anderen Ländern teilzunehmen und darüber zu diskutieren
- Beginn jeweils frühestens 10-10:30 Uhr. Und Ende gegen 16-17 Uhr. Abendprogramm ab 20 Uhr
- Gelegenheit mehr Abenteuerspielplätze und Stadtteilbauernhöfe zu besichtigen

Kommentar des Organisations-Komitees:

Es wird immer schwierig sein einen perfekten Tagungsort zu finden. TeilnehmerInnen werden sich immer auf gewisse Kompromisse einstellen müssen.

Was das Programm angeht, so würden wir beim nächsten mal die dezentralen Aktivitäten auf einen Tag konzentrieren und eine organisierte Tour zu verschiedenen Plätzen vielleicht im Anschluss an eine Stadtbesichtigung anbieten. Es ist aber grundsätzlich immer eine Gradwanderung zwischen wenigen tiefen, intensiven Erfahrungs- und Begegnungsmöglichkeiten einerseits und vielen abwechslungsreichen aber meist oberflächlichen Eindrücken andererseits. Es hängt natürlich vieles auch vom Wetter ab. Da hatten wir diesmal wirklich Glück.

Wir denken die Zeit für die Workshops sollte nicht reduziert werden. Es braucht seine Zeit, bis ein arbeitsfähiger Zusammenhang entsteht und es soll auch genug Raum für Erfahrungsaustausch bleiben. Es ist aber sehr wichtig die Workshopleitung sehr genau zu prüfen, um den TeilnehmerInnen eine Enttäuschung bzw. das Gefühl von verlorener Zeit zu ersparen.

Was die Vorträge angeht. Es ist schwer vorher zu entscheiden, was für wen relevant ist und was nicht. Am besten ist es es gibt eine gewisse Spannbreite an Themen und die TeilnehmerInnen entscheiden sich selbst dafür, was Ihnen zusagt. Es ist sinnvoll vorab mehr Informationen zu den Vorträgen zu geben, sowohl was die Referenten angeht, als auch die Themen. Uns stand leider vorher selber kaum mehr als Name und Titel zur Verfügung. Sinnvoll ist zumindest ein kurzes Abstract des Vortrages.

Wir empfehlen nachdrücklich das weitere Aufgreifen partizipativer Programmteile, wie Präsentationen und Diskussionsgruppen seitens der TeilnehmerInnen und öffentliche Veranstaltung wie das Spielfest. Das bedeutet zwar nicht unerheblich viel Mehraufwand, aber durch die Nutzung des Internets wird es in Zukunft immer leichter sein miteinander darüber zu kommunizieren und es

verleiht dem Kongress eine wesentlich kooperative Atmosphäre.

Das funktioniert natürlich nur, wenn TeilnehmerInnen bereit sind sich aktiv einzubringen. Wenn wir uns alle daran gewöhnen, dass Kongresse nicht nur konsumierbare Ereignisse sind wird das kein Problem sein. Andererseits muss auch nicht jeder Kongress alle Aspekte der europäischen Abenteuerspielplätze und Stadtteilbauernhöfe beleuchten. Es ist völlig in Ordnung, wenn das jeweilige Organisations-Komitee eigene Schwerpunkte setzt. Je öfter TeilnehmerInnen an solchen Kongressen teilnehmen, desto tiefer wird ihr Verständnis für die Vielfalt der Projekte und der Arbeit werden.

Wir schlagen vor, dass die begonnene Verständigung und Zusammenarbeit zwischen Abenteuerspielplätzen einerseits Kinderbauernhöfen und Stadtteilmärkten andererseits auf europäischer Ebene fortgesetzt werden sollte. Wir haben viel gemeinsam und auch vieles, was wir voneinander lernen können. Wir würden es begrüßen, wenn die Kolleginnen und Kollegen der Spielplätze auch in Zukunft zu den EFCF-Konferenzen eingeladen werden und wir werden dazu gerne unsere Adressenlisten zur Verfügung stellen.

Es wird unvermeidbar sein, dass einige TeilnehmerInnen sich gestresst fühlen, während andere noch nicht genügend ausgelastet sind. Erkennen wir diese Vielfalt an und machen wir das beste daraus!