



YOUNG WATER
PROFESSIONALS
GERMANY



Klare Konzepte. Saubere Umwelt.

Working abroad !

Three YWP sharing
their international
working experience

25 Aug 2022, 2.00pm (CEST, Berlin)

For students and YWP
interested in working
internationally!



INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLES

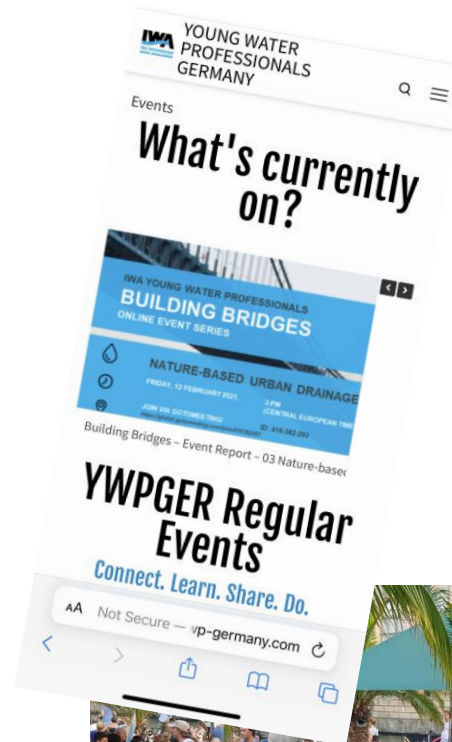
*IWA Young Water Professionals &
Junge DWA International*

IWA YWP GERMANY | JUNGE DWA International

INTRODUCING YWPGER

We connect (young) water professionals in Germany with the world, and the world with Germany.

- Organisation of **roundtables** & network events
- **Publications** (national & international)
- **Representing** GER abroad within IWA events and at international conferences
- **Connecting** with other IWA chapters



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YWPGER STEERING COMMITTEE – [Contact us!](#)

The Steering Committee (SC) is in charge of the overall development, management and maintenance of the network. The SC currently has four members with different responsibilities and assignments. The members are elected on the general assembly at the beginning of each year.



info@ywp-germany.com



<https://ywp-germany.com/> **NEW!!!**



@YWP_Germany



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ywp-germany/>

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INTRODUCING JUNGE DWA – International Roundtable & Circle Networking (international)

Contact

Philippe Ader, Brisbane, Australia

**Felix Altmann, Braunschweig,
Germany**

Jens Jensen, Stuttgart, Germany



<https://en.dwa.de/en/jungedwa.html>



international@junge-dwa.de



XING-Gruppe > JungeDWA

Networking



Der Circle Networking sieht sich als das Sprachrohr der Jungen DWA und unterstützt die Junge DWA bei strategischen Aufgaben rund um das Thema Netzwerk. Er ist zuständig für die Aufrechterhaltung der Kommunikation mit Stakeholdern aus der Wasserwirtschaft, wie den DWA-Landesverbänden, Wasserverbänden und Nachbarschaften, aber auch Universitäten, Ausbildungsstätten und Unternehmen.

Neben der Jungen DWA gibt es eine Reihe von jungen Organisationen (national als auch international), die in unterschiedlichen Branchen von der Automobilindustrie bis hin zum Umwelt- und Naturschutz, der Politik sowie der Nachhaltigkeit aktiv sind. Die Herausforderungen der Zukunft wie der Klimawandel können nur in interdisziplinären Teams und durch eine breite Beteiligung der jungen Fachkräfte angegangen und gelöst werden, sodass hier auch die Zusammenarbeit über gemeinsame Veranstaltungen und gegenseitige „Botschafter“ intensiviert werden soll. Der Circle pflegt eine

Netzwerk-Karte aller Netzwerkpartner für zukünftige Projekte oder auch für die Stammtischleiter der Jungen DWA für potentielle Kooperationen. Je nach Möglichkeit wird auch eine verstärkte Präsenz auf nationalen und internationalen Netzwerkveranstaltungen und Tagungen angestrebt, um die Sichtbarkeit der Jungen DWA zu erhöhen und neue Kontakte für die Junge DWA zu knüpfen bzw. zu pflegen. Mit den Arbeitsgruppen „Förderung und Finanzen“, „Digitalisierung“ und „Außenarbeit“ findet ein regelmäßiger Austausch stattfinden.

Ansprechpartner: Felix Altmann und Tilmann Vorhoff (networking@junge-dwa.de)

Weitere Mitglieder: Philippe Ader, Philipp Beutler, Lisa Bross, Hagimar v. Ditzfurth, Luisa Frackenpohl, Daniel Herzer, Jens Jensen, Andres Lucht, Christoph Saupe, Juliane Thamm



<https://de.dwa.de/de/circle.html>



networking@junge-dwa.de

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WORKING ABROAD

Felix Altmann

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WORKING ABROAD – Felix Altmann

Leading questions:

- Why working abroad and what were the expectations ?
- What does daily work live look like (differences to Germany) ?
- What are lessons learnt so far and advises for successors ?

International experience:

- 3 months Ecuador for Bachelor Thesis
- 3 months Namibia for Master Thesis
- 2.5 yrs working as international project coordinator at RODECO / GOPA
- 1 yr working as sanitary engineer at CES

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WORKING ABROAD – Why working abroad and what were the expectations

Why working abroad?

- Some private travelling far away as a child
- Intrinsic interest in geography (other countries, languages, cultures)
- Offers of preparing the theses abroad
- Course(s) at university

Modulname					
Alternative Sanitärkonzepte					
Modul Nr. 13-K2-M010	Kreditpunkte 6 CP	Arbeitsaufwand 180 h	Selbststudium 90 h	Moduldauer 1 Semester	Angebotsturnus Jedes 2. Semester
Sprache Deutsch			Modulverantwortliche Person Prof. Dr. Peter Cornel		
1	Kurse des Moduls				
	Kurs Nr.	Kursname	Arbeitsaufwand (CP)	Lehrform	SWS
	13-K2-0010-se	Alternative Sanitärkonzepte	0	Seminar	6
2	Lerninhalt				
	• Gesetzliche Rahmenbedingungen zur Abwasserwiederverwendung • Abwasserzusammensetzung und Abwasserherkunft (Grauwasser, Schwarzwasser, Braunwasser, Gelbwasser) • Möglichkeiten zur Trennung der Abwasserströme • Grauwasserbehandlung, Schwarzwasserbehandlung, Braunwasserbehandlung, Gelbwasserbehandlung • Konzepte zur Wasserwiederverwendung und Wertstoffnutzung • Schadstoffverbleib				



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WORKING ABROAD – Why working abroad and what were the expectations

What were the expectations?

- Contribute to technical, environmental and social development
- Learning about “non-western” societies and life-styles
- Have a job full of surprises



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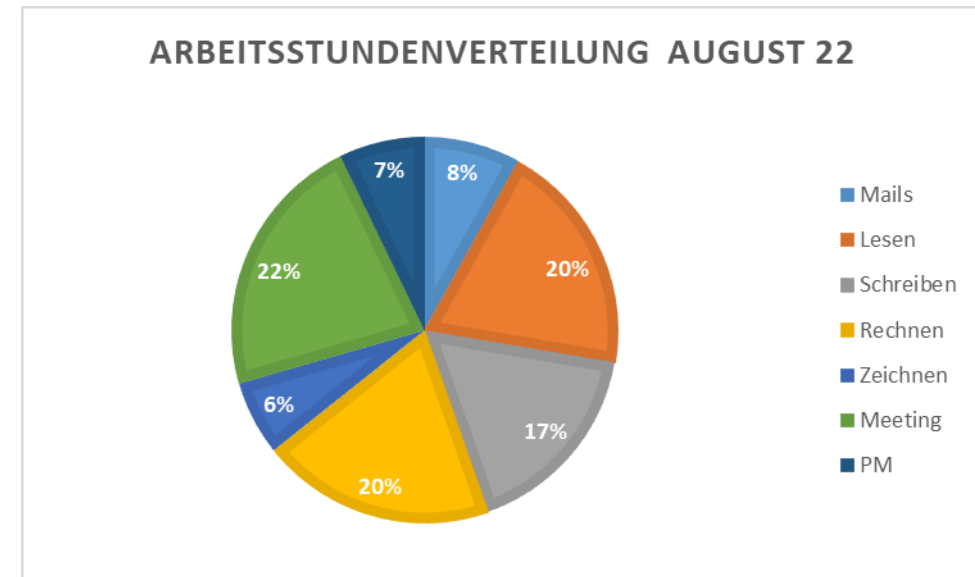
WORKING ABROAD - How does daily work live look like (differences to Germany) ?

What does daily work look like ?

- Depending on the position, in my case mainly “designer, planner”
- Large difference between being in the HQ and being in the projects
- Some similarities to working in Germany

(Main) differences to Germany ?

- Usually larger projects
- Other standards
- Intercultural issues
- Knowledge level of stakeholders



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WORKING ABROAD - What are lessons learnt so far and advises for successors ?

- There is unbelievably much to do!
- Showing respect is the basis
- People appreciate your work
- Some frustration threshold required
- Missions abroad are always a great experience
- Sometimes difficult coordination of private and professional life

If intrinsic motivation is there, working international is a very viable option!

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WORKING ABROAD

Hagimar von Ditfurth

WORKING ABROAD – Hagimar von Ditzfurth

Why swap known with unknown?

Motivation:

- always interested in international cooperation
- Always loved trying out new things

Hopes:

- To work and learn in a very dynamic and new setting

Why Uganda?

- Job opportunity for partner

我爱水

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WORKING ABROAD – Hagimar von Ditzfurth

How have things changed?

- Principles
- Definition of „time“
- Introductions
- Prayers
- „Big Man“
- Professional thank you speeches
- Internet, Water & Electricity
- Youth



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WORKING ABROAD – Hagimar von Ditfurth

Lesson's Learned?

- Shut up and listen
- Be slow to trust
- Reach out and make friends
- Women in power are common
- Nepotism and Corruption hurt everybody
- Local solutions are the best solutions
- Malaria sucks, but you won't necessarily get it
- Don't cry if it gets tough: you are here by choice



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WORKING ABROAD

Philippe Ader

WORKING ABROAD – Philippe Ader

Why swap a great role in one of Germany's leading water engineering consultancies for the unknown?



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WORKING ABROAD – AUSTRALIA

Why?

Curiosity

- Mix it up - find out how things are done somewhere else

Self improvement

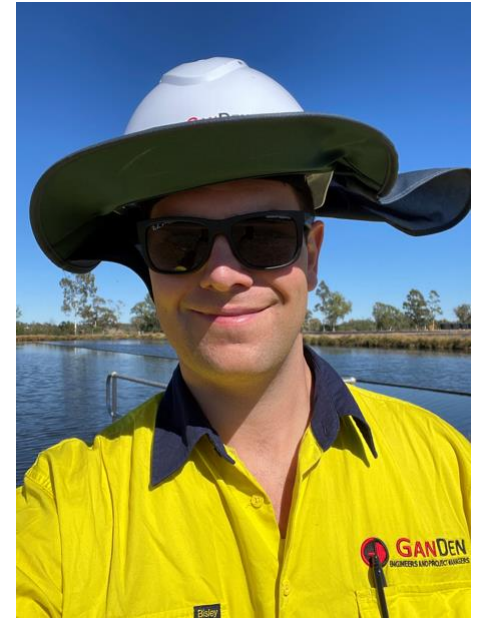
- Expand horizon, improve language & social skills

Career progression

- Proven ability to push through adversity

Change in lifestyle

- 'Escape' the sometimes-distant, German way of life and leave winter behind



WORKING ABROAD – AUSTRALIA

How have things changed?

Cultural

- Australian mateship – relaxed atmosphere in the workplace – open plan offices
- Migrant nation – international workforce
- ‘Challenge of the status quo’ spirit

Organisational

- Functional project specifications - D&C
- Quicker projects turnaround
- More focused on discipline specific skills

Technical

- Higher level of digitalisation – Printing & drawing in 2D are in the thing of the past
- Different country – different problems (water reuse 👍 , digestion/energy efficiency 👎)
- Challenges differ greatly between metropolitan areas (state capitals) and regions (remote townships)

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WORKING ABROAD – AUSTRALIA

Lessons learned to date

**What to expect when
working overseas?**

You will be thrown into the
cold water – it'll get warm if
you continue swimming



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WORKING ABROAD – AUSTRALIA



Council's office in Central Queensland

Thanks for
listing!
Danke für's
Zuhören!



German Pub in Brisbane