



Federal Office of Administration
– Central Agency for
Schools Abroad –

ZfA 
Deutsche Auslandsschularbeit
International

German School Management Worldwide



Information on the Central Agency for Schools Abroad

Within the Federal Office of Administration the Central Agency for Schools Abroad (ZfA) works closely with the German Länder and the Federal Foreign Office (expert supervision) to provide assistance and support to

- ▶ more than 140 German schools all over the world, as well as
- ▶ about 870 educational institutions and German departments at public schools supported by the Federal Republic of Germany.

These institutions employ about 2,000 teachers from Germany and German language advisors. During their employment abroad, they receive support in organisational, pedagogical and staff-related matters from the Central Agency for Schools Abroad.

Schools run by private organisations (such as school associations, foundations and religious orders) are an important and indispensable part of the German cultural relations and education policy.

This policy focuses on

- ▶ the contact with the culture and society of the host country,
- ▶ providing schools for German children abroad,
- ▶ promoting the German language,
- ▶ and strengthening education and professional life in Germany.

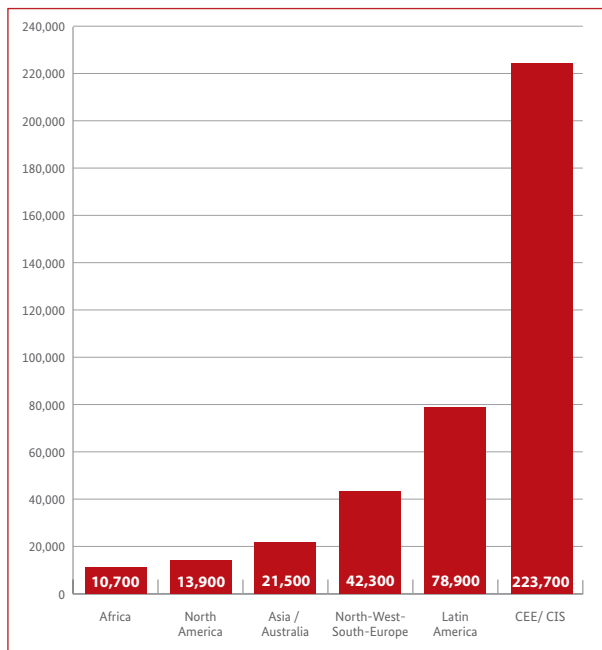
In order to achieve these objectives, the Central Agency with its approx. 100 employees advises and supports the German schools abroad and other educational institutions

- ▶ in pedagogical and staff-related issues;
- ▶ in organisational and financial matters;
- ▶ by recruiting and placing teachers (about 2,000 teachers recruited from Germany are currently working in the different educational institutions);
- ▶ by providing further education and training all over the world for headmasters, teachers and administration managers;
- ▶ by organising meetings and conferences with private schools and representatives of public schools;
- ▶ by conducting and evaluating language examinations (German Language Certificate (DSD) of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK); Central German Language Examination);
- ▶ and by providing financial support to German schools abroad and other educational institutions.

All of these measures are aimed at ensuring a high standard of performance and quality development, so that schools abroad can serve as an international showcase for Germany as a good place for education and business.



Pupils at supported schools abroad



- ▶ Of a total of 391,000 pupils attending supported schools abroad, 79,500 attend German schools abroad. 311,500 pupils attend German classes at schools in the school systems of other countries.
- ▶ Of the 79,500 pupils at German schools abroad, about 20,400 are German and 59,100 non-German.
- ▶ About 4,000 pupils sit German and international final examinations every year, 3,000 of which take the examinations for the general German qualifications for enrolment at an institution of higher education.
- ▶ 56,500 pupils take the examinations for the German Language Certificate (DSD) of the KMK every year, 12,700 of which pass level II (proof of language competency required for admission to German institutions of higher education).
- ▶ Approx. 700 pupils are taking part in bilingual, vocational training with recognised diplomas offered at two independent German vocational schools and 12 vocational departments at German schools abroad.

Last update: December 2012

You can reach us at:

Bundesverwaltungsamt
– Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen –
50728 Köln

Telephone: +49 (0) 221 758-1431
Fax: +49 (0) 221 758-2854
Email: zfa@bva.bund.de

Internet:
www.auslandsschulwesen.de
www.pasch-net.de



