

## **September –December 2011, ASA Programme – Laura & Stefanie**

### **learning + experience + exchange**

#### **→ Why working and learning abroad?**

Working together with people committed to a fair and sustainable development, share experiences and attitudes, support an organization with a social agenda and getting to know new people and a different country...that are just some of the reasons why we decided to take part in the ASA-Program.

The ASA-Program promotes exchange and learning about our One World through personal experience. It supports young people to expand their skills and to contribute to sustainable global development. The ASA-Program is a learning program based in Germany which trains young people who are open minded and interested in development cooperation and social and political issues. The ASA-Program offers a learning cycle consisting of training seminars, a practical phase and a follow-up phase. Therefore our ASA year started with two training seminars in Germany, where we learned about global interdependencies and international development and got prepared for the internship abroad. During our practical phase we worked together as a team for three month in the project "Technical Education and Vocational Training" at GMI.

#### **→ What was the project about?**

The scope of the research project was to provide a snapshot of the perception of the current Technical Education and Vocational Training (TEVT) system in Malaysia. Which perceptions and attitudes are the reasons for TEVT student's choices when it comes to educational destinations? Which factors influence their decision making process? What are the employers perspectives and attitudes towards TEVT in Malaysia? We conducted a survey for TEVT students and

interviews at different industries. The data were collected and analyzed to draw conclusions. Based on the results, we developed recommendations concerning further proceedings and actions. The study aims to offer a basis for further discussions within the community of TEVT and the results shall contribute to an improvement of the TEVT system in Malaysia.

→ **How was it at GMI?**

It was a nice experience to work at an educational institute as the GMI in Malaysia. We learned a lot about current developments in Malaysia and activities of different stakeholders in the educational system. We were warmly welcomed and the colleagues at GMI supported our work as good as they could. We thank Mr. Ngan Cheng Hwa and Mrs. Mazlina Bt Ahmad and the whole team of the Resource Development Centre for their professional and personal support. We learned a lot from you and had the chance to experience the diversity of the Malaysian culture. It was also nice to get to know the students and their activities and lifestyles. We were also able to travel, which allowed us to get to know more of the country.

