

Contextual factors affecting prevention Implementing “Communities That Care - CTC” in Germany

4th International Conference of the
European Society for Prevention Research

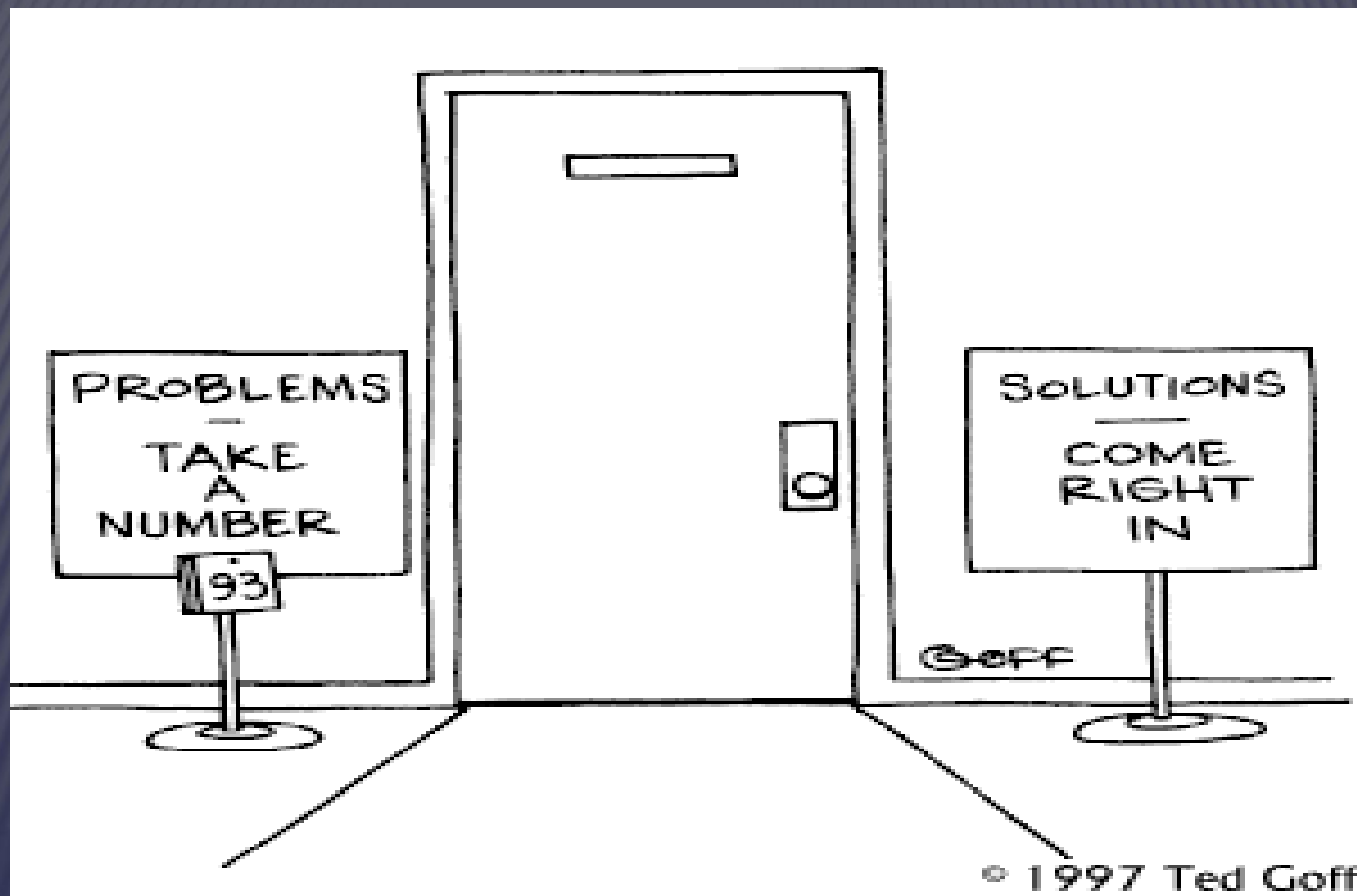
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Frederick Groeger-Roth
Crime Prevention Council of Lower Saxony /
Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony, Germany



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Communities That Care:

community planning system / intervention at community level:

- prevent multiple juvenile problem behaviours
- by tackling common risk and protective factors
- through community coalitions and evidence-based programs (Hawkins, Catalano et al. 1992, Hawkins et al. 2002)

implementation model:

- providing instruments, training and technical assistance for community prevention coalitions to adopt a prevention science approach

CTC – implementation strategy:

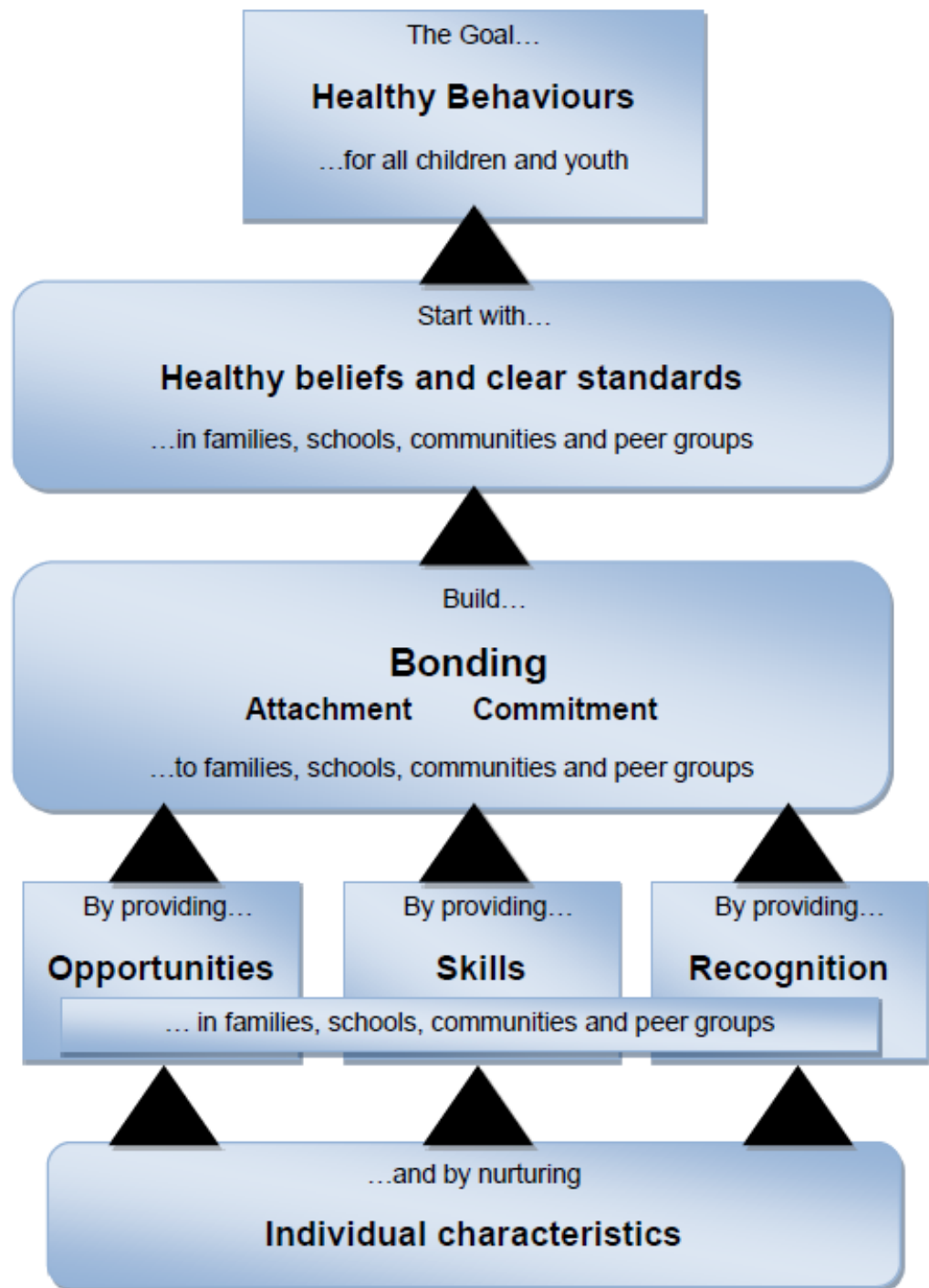
- mobilizing community stakeholders and empowering community coalitions for strategic prevention planning (Phase 1 and 2)
- need and resource assessment: measuring profiles of risk and protection at community level (CTC - Youth Survey), focus on the most pressing r/p factors and assessment of existing resources and services (Phase 3)
- matching of effective prevention programmes to community needs, developing measurable goals, community action plan (Phase 4)
- monitoring and evaluation of results (Phase 5)

<i>Risk Factors</i>	Violence	Delinquency	Substance Abuse	School Dropout	Teenage Pregnancy	Depression and Anxiety
Family						
Family History of Problem Behaviour	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family Management Problems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family Conflict	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Favorable Parental Attitudes and Involvement in the Problem Behaviour	✓	✓	✓			
School						
Early and Persistent Antisocial Behaviour	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Academic Failure Beginning in Late Elementary School	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lack of Commitment to School	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Peers and Individual						
Rebelliousness		✓	✓	✓		
Friends Who Engage in the Problem Behaviour	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Favorable Attitudes Towards the Problem Behaviour		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Early Initiation of the Problem Behaviour	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Constitutional Factors	✓	✓	✓			✓
Community						
Availability of Alcohol and Drugs	✓		✓			
Availability of Weapons	✓	✓				
Laws and Norms Favorable Towards Problem Behaviour	✓	✓	✓			
Media Portrayals of Violence	✓					
Transitions and Mobility		✓	✓	✓		✓
Low Neighbourhood Attachment / Community Disorganisation	✓	✓	✓			
Extreme Economic Deprivation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

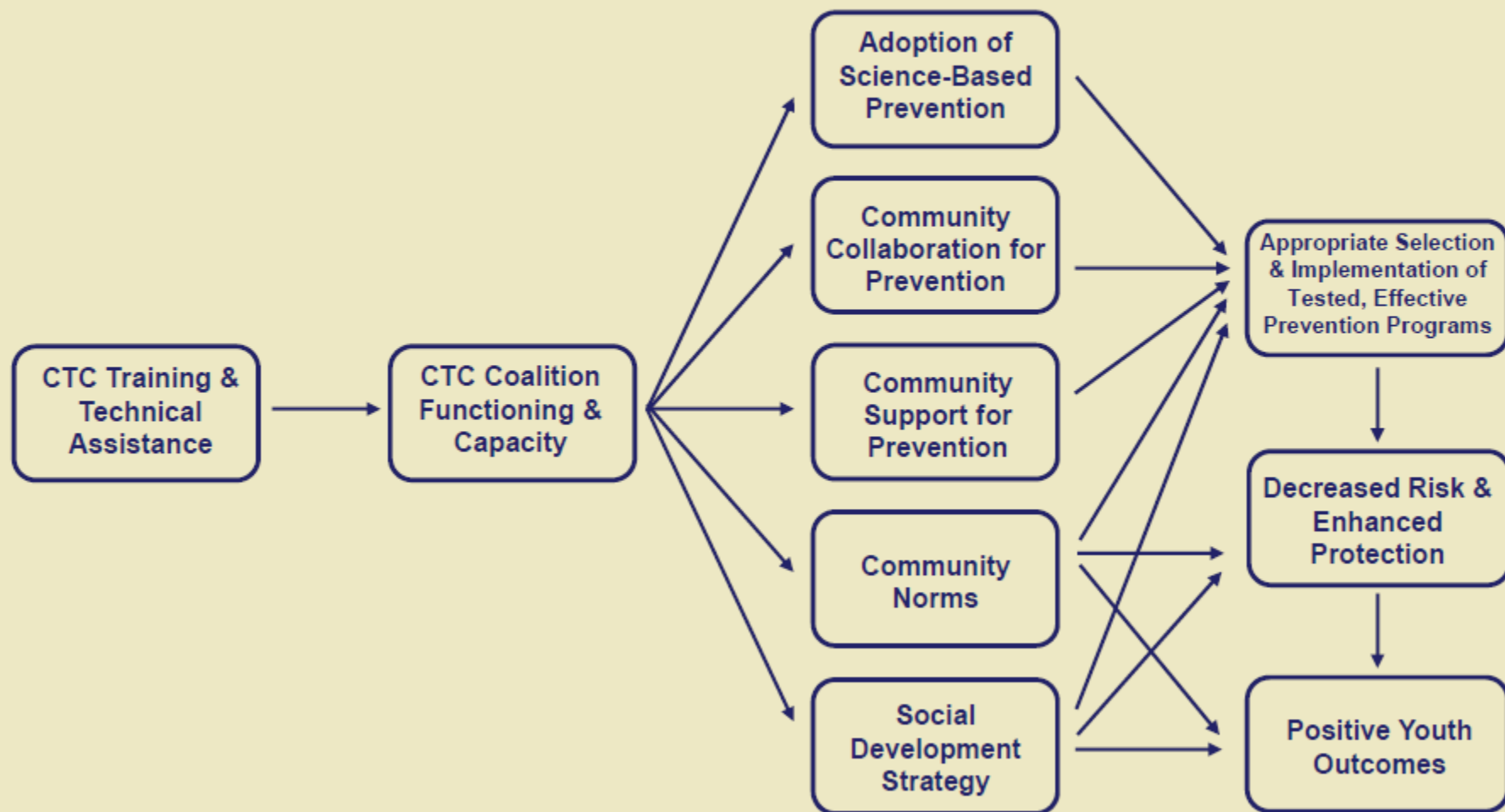
Social Development Strategy:

Enhancing common protective factors in all socialising units

(Hawkins / Catalano 1996)



CTC Logic Model



main issues for transferring CTC in the (West-) European context

- generalizability of the underlying R / P - model
(CTC – Survey, Arthur et al. 2002, 2007)
- legal, political and structural differences
- number and quality of prevention program evaluations,
availability of menus and databases about effective programs
- professional infrastructure vs. volunteer structure in prevention service planning
and delivery (Jonkman et al. 2008)
- successful effect evaluations for CTC still only in the U.S.:
 - CYDS (e.g. Hawkins et al. 2009),
 - Penn State Evaluation (e.g. Greenberg, Feinberg et al. 2009)
 - European evaluation results are mixed (Crow et al. 2004, Bannister/Dillane 2004, Steketee et al. 2012, Jonkman 2012, Schubert et al. 2013)

CTC in Lower Saxony:

- State Capital: Hannover
- Size: 47,624.22 km²
- Population: 7,973,800

State of Lower Saxony

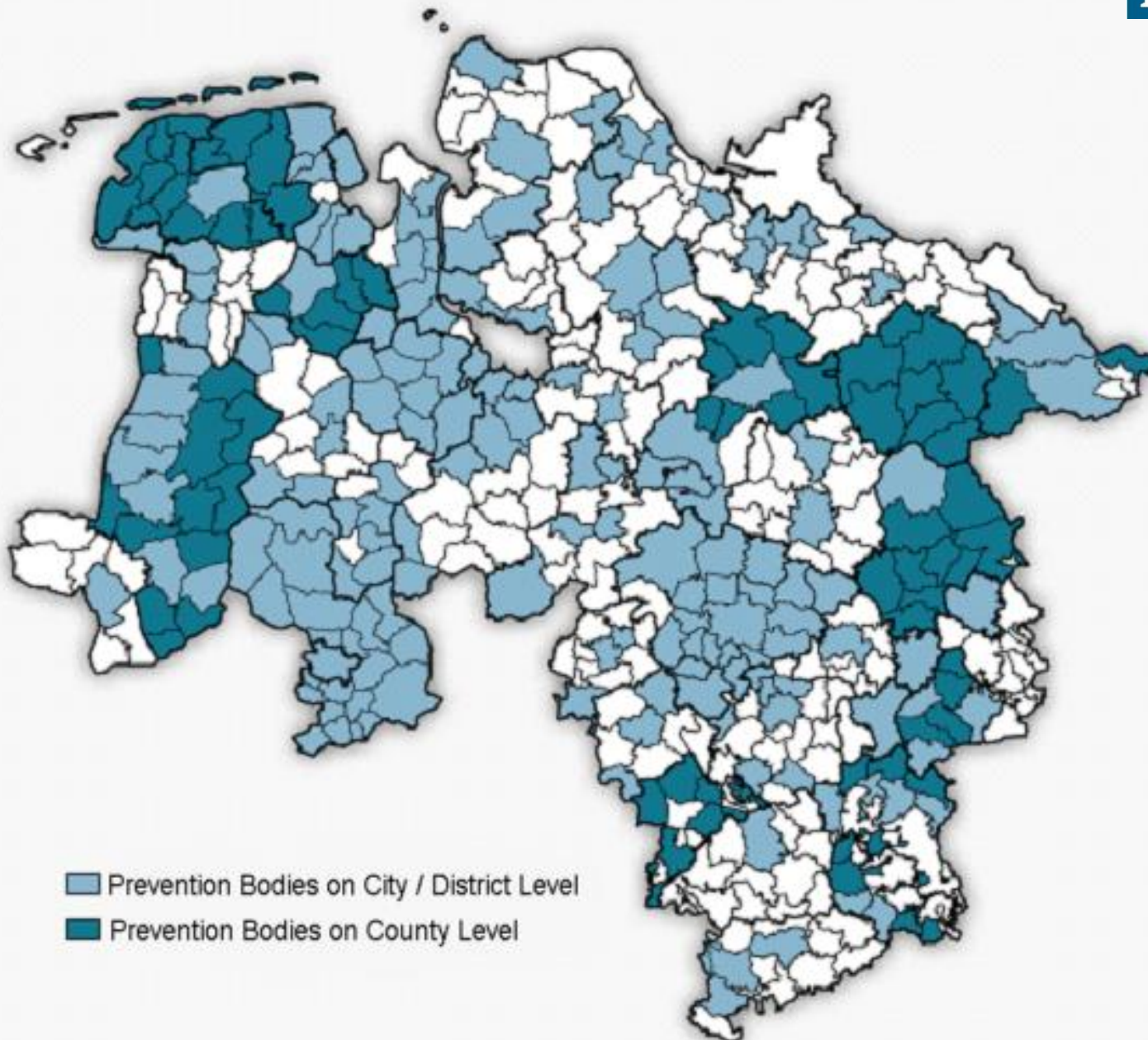


> 200 Local Crime Prevention Bodies in Lower Saxony



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pros:
potential for
coordinated
prevention
systems

cons:
“Inexplicit
contents ,
concepts and
contours”

Current Status in Germany:

- pilot project in 3 communities (2009 – 2012): CTC – process is feasible (process evaluation: Schubert et al. 2013)
- CTC – Survey was adapted, different community profiles, sufficient reliability of most of the scales, revision and state-wide use 2013
- databank of effective and promising prevention programs was developed (“Prevention Green List”),
- 6 new CTC - sites has started 2013 in Lower Saxony
- transfer to other states (Saxony) and cities (Augsburg) in Germany
- outcome evaluation 2014 – 2016 is applied for

Further developments:

EU-funded project „Making CTC work at the European level“ (2013 – 2015):



Partners from Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, The Netherlands, Sweden and United Kingdom:

- cross-national comparison of CTC – Survey results
- building up a European databank of effective and promising prevention programmes
- comparison of CTC evaluation results - developing a European CTC implementation guide

“System Level” Intervention Issues

Contextual factors:	Risk / Protective Factors	Structure (Organisations, Regulations)	Norms, „Culture“	Knowledge, Skills, Competencies
CTC – Intervention	CTC – youth survey	CTC implementation plan	selection and implementation of EBP	CTC trainings, t.a.
Adaptation in Germany	wording (item – level), outcome measures	embedding CTC in existing coalitions	rating system for program menu	targeted to practitioner specific needs
Challenge	generalizability of R / P – model	competing prevention frameworks	different professional „cultures“ of EBP - approval	balance existing education / ressources with CTC specific content
Result	sufficient evidence	feasible, but urban / rural difference	enhanced professional opinion making	good acceptance, further evaluation of effects needed

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Conclusion / Key Points:

- contextual factors that are relevant for the CTC implementation can be identified and addressed pro-actively
- we should not only evaluate the “system fit” of CTC in different contexts, but also the potential of CTC to affect some contextual factors during implementation (contextual factors should be conceptualized as evolving, not static, at least to some degree)
- implementation of the CTC model (process) was challenging, but feasible
- to evaluate CTC outcomes we need better understanding of mediating concepts (e.g. what factors are influencing local program selection and program implementation)
- number of available EBPs is one main external restriction

Thank you very much for your attention!

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Niedersächsisches Ministerium
für Soziales, Frauen, Familie,
Gesundheit und Integration



Niedersächsisches
Justizministerium



Contact:

Frederick Groeger-Roth
Crime Prevention Council of Lower Saxony
- Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony -
frederick.groeger-roth@mj.niedersachsen.de
www.lpr.niedersachsen.de
www.ctc-info.de