

Home Economics

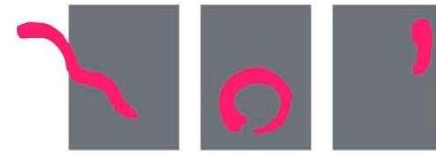
A field of study and a profession which is a sub-discipline of the human sciences. Home Economists work in research and practice from a multidisciplinary perspective, covering the economic, social, ecological and cultural aspects of daily human life in a variety of settings.

IFHE

The International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE), founded in 1908, is the only international body representing Home Economics which has consultative status at the United Nations. Its perspectives are global and members come from all over the world. IFHE supports the objective of sustainable living for all. 21 March was established by IFHE as World Home Economics Day in 1982.



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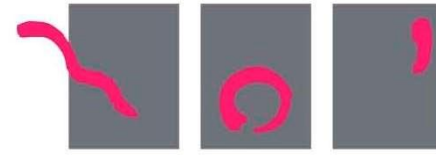
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World Home Economics Day (WHED)

- Dates and topics relate to United Nations campaigns, etc.
- The theme for 2021 was chosen in accordance with the declaration by WHO of the 2020-2030 Decade of Healthy Ageing.
- IFHE members are encouraged to translate the English language themes into their own language(s) and action(s)
- Reports on actions are collected nationally and sent to IFHE.



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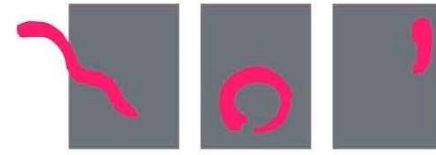
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World Home Economics Day (WHED) 2021: Age Friendly Homes & Communities

Home Economists focus on accessible and supportive living environments for older people with varying needs and capacities and also include the “elderly of tomorrow”.

The WHED theme 2021 is aligned to the WHO declared Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030.

www.ifhe.org/events/world-home-economics-day/



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WHED Germany 2021

- In Germany actions were undertaken with the following results:
 - * Older people are important, but are not the only focus of action.
 - * Municipalities were considered too large a reference value, so instead „Quartier“ [Engl: neighbourhood] was chosen in the German translation.
 - * Actions in Germany focus on personal and domestic services.
- The English Motto has been translated into German as:
„Mein Zuhause – meine Nachbarn – unser Quartier.
Gutes Leben und Wohnen für jedes Alter“
- A working group with a variety of experts has been established (Becker, Bröcheler, Flatt, Leicht-Eckardt, Radzey)

WHED Germany 2021 – Working-Group – Discussion and results

- Aim of action: to demonstrate Home Economics expertise for everyday living
- Public interest in WHED should be promoted generally – not just this year
- Ideas were collected and incorporated in personal networks
- Cooperation with BAGSO (the German National Association of Senior Citizens' Organisations, with 120 organisations as members)
- Action: a Position Paper on aspects in theory and practice to be published
- Institutions which undertake Home Economics activities in neighbourhoods were consulted
- Possible partners, offering personal and relevant domestic services, are being sought

WHED Germany 2021 – Action of the German section of IFHE

- Position paper – Working Group draft
- Online meetings of IFHE – Working group with BAGSO
- Intensive discussions, compromises and finalized paper
- Agreement about distribution (when, addressees) from IFHE
Germany and BAGSO

IFHE Germany: Position paper for WHED 2021



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Title

Good living in old age – Challenges and opportunities for home economics in neighbourhoods

Background

- An ageing society, restricted living space in old age, limited to home, village or neighbourhood
- Limited awareness of personal and domestic services
- Lack of sufficiently trained domestic staff

Aim

- Support individual achievement of physical, mental and social wellbeing, self-determination and independence
- Support providers of personal and domestic services



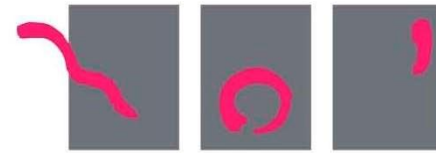
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WHED Germany 2021 – Position Paper – content /1

- Access to personal and domestic services is vital.
- Personal and domestic services provide for nutrition and health, cleaning and hygiene, washing and dressing for daily life as well as festivities
- Professional personal and domestic care supports individual wellbeing and accompanies personal care for the elderly, as well as for disabled people
- Home Economics takes place in private households, communal residences and institutions



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WHED Germany 2021 – Position Paper – content /2

- Neighbourhoods need multidisciplinary, professional templates to establish and maintain a socio-cultural infrastructure
- Home Economists with their multiprofessional competencies should be part of neighbourhood management teams
- Neighbourhood residents should be integrated at eye level and encouraged to actively participate and take responsibility for their neighbourhoods
- Home Economists are familiar with domestic needs and can organize corresponding professional, personal and domestic services



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WHED Germany 2021 – Position Paper – Demands

- Securing living conditions requires interdisciplinary professional and voluntary work, which includes Home Economics competencies
- Personal and domestic services enable individuals to live independent and self-determined lives with equal rights, for as long as possible
- Neighbourhoods need long-term financial support for professional and voluntary management on site
- Accessible public spaces, houses and flats are essential – that people can meet in their neighbourhoods
- Available and affordable mobility should be in place as needed
- The study of Home Economics should be part of the general school curriculum



Further informations:

International Federation for Home Economics
www.ifhe.org



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