Our Workshop Bus

A Mobile Repair Café
About Us

- Jena: 100,000 inhabitants
- Repair Café was founded in Summer 2014
- 10-30 active members
- Monthly repair cafés, mainly electrical appliances, bikes, textiles
• Biggest issue: No permanent home
• In 5 years already 3 different locations, which never lasted
• The Idea of a mobile Workshop Bus was born and I wrote a funding application to “Deutsche Postcode Lotterie”

• In November 2017 we got an E-Mail: You won 10,000 Euro of funding

• In May 2018 we bought a 20-year-old MAN public bus for 5,000 Euro
• In summer 2018 we built a workshop inside the bus
• 500 voluntary hours, mainly recycling materials
• costs: 500 Euro materials, 800 Euro repairs, 1300 Euro insurance, 300 Euro taxes, 2000 Euro print, 200 Euro licensing
• In autumn 2018 the work was done: We removed seats, built several folding tables, workbenches, storage units, power outlets and a sewing corner

• For the winter we found a parking garage at a farm
• Over the summer we had 6 Repair-Cafés in and around Jena
• Bus worked out as great eye catcher
Pros and cons of the bus

• Pro: Attention, we are mobile, workshop is working well, good engine

• Cons: No driver, no parking space inside the city, a lot of organizational efforts