

O6: INTENSIVE COURSE FOR ADULT LEARNERS

ONE DAY IN THE SHOES OF “THE OTHER”

National Report

Partner name: **LMETB**

1. Profile of adult educator(s) who held the course (max. 5 lines)

Please briefly describe the adult educator(s) by providing a brief professional profile (age, qualification(s), experience, etc.)

The adult educator who provided the training was Kiki Konstantinidou, a language teacher at Centre for European Schooling who has 8 years experience at teaching multicultural classes and designing activities for learners that come from different ethnic backgrounds and minorities. She also has experience developing community art projects in Dublin. Age.32. Nationality: Greek

2. Information upon the participants (adult learners) who attended the course

Please fill in the table below:

| No. | Name and family name (optional) | Age | Gender (F/M) | Culture/ethnicity /religion | Other relevant aspect if any <small>(i.e. immigrant, refugee or asylum seeker status; years since arrival in host country, integration history, employed or jobless, etc.)</small> |
|-----|---------------------------------|-----|--------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1 | Ginevra Ghiozzi | 46 | F | Italian | Experience with multicultural groups/living multicultural community |
| 2 | Leticia Perez | 28 | F | Spanish | Experience with multicultural groups/living multicultural community |
| 3 | Olivia Bastida | 29 | F | French | Experience with multicultural groups/living multicultural community |
| 4 | Julia Fuentes | 39 | F | Spanish | Experience with multicultural groups/living multicultural community |
| 5 | Elvina Jonot | 39 | F | French | Experience with multicultural groups/living multicultural community |

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|----|--------------------|----|---|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 6 | Corinne Martinez | 50 | F | French | living multicultural community |
| 7 | Robert Takacs | 37 | M | Hungarian | Experience with multicultural groups |
| 8 | Irma Bochorishvili | 30 | F | Greek | living multicultural community |
| 9 | Izabela Bochniaz | 40 | F | Polish | Experience with multicultural groups |
| 10 | Laura Uzhuraitiene | 36 | F | Lithuanian | Experience with multicultural groups |
| 11 | Rose Lawlor | 48 | F | Irish | TEFAL Teacher |
| 12 | Paula Burns | 38 | F | Northern Irish | Youthreach Resource Person |

3. Implementation of Intensive course (*max. 3 pages*)

Please make an overall description of the implemented activities, by emphasizing on the following aspects:

The training took place in Dunshaughlin Community College, Co. Meath in 21-23 June 2017. The trainer was Kiki Konstantinidou, language teacher at Centre for European Schooling. The participants were employees by LMETB and they all came from different cultural backgrounds.

All the chapter were presented, but the ones more explored were:

- Religion
- Education
- Cultural Experiences
- Interpersonal Relationships
- The advantages of living in a multicultural society
- Multicultural Europe

1st Day

Kiki gave an overall introduction to the Project 'Us&Them: Dialogue, Tolerance, Collaboration for good coexistence in a multicultural world' and talked about the Handbook II and its structure. A general conversation took place talking about the expectations of the learners from this training course.

Religion

The participants got to speak about their own religion and tried to teach each other about some interesting facts about their practice. Activity: Role Play from the lesson plan in Handbook II

Education

Comparing educational systems in Ireland and the home countries of the participants. Discussing the difficulties foreign students can face entering a new educational setting.

2nd Day

Cultural Experiences

The participants get to talk about their own culture and things they miss from their own country. They make a list of the things and try to see if they can get it in Ireland, they compare and they see similarities and differences between their lists.

Interpersonal Relationships

The animation film 'Zero' was shown and discussion took place about stereotypes and difficulties people from different ethnic minorities face in Ireland. The participants were divided into groups and they came up with solutions and 'support' systems for cases as such. The participants presented examples where they felt they have been victims of discrimination.

3rd Day

Multicultural Europe

A youtube video was shown about multiculturalism 'Living in a multicultural society'. The participants were asked to create a poster with the topic 'Europe: United in Diversity' (EU's motto).

The advantages of living in a multicultural society

The participants talked about their own experience (fears when they first moved but also about the positive things they gained by moving to a different country.) The participants were asked to organise an 'imaginary' trip to a cultural centre of their choice in order to learn more about a different culture (examples were given, e.g. The Hellenic Community School or the Greek Orthodox Church in Dublin).

- main findings and results from Focus Group (including 2-3 brief quotes from participants regarding their expectations / satisfaction from this training)

Focus groups were formed after the training course where participants got to share experiences about the course. They enjoyed it and they found it very useful as there was practical information given to them. They believed they are more aware now of cultural differences and the way they should behave towards the others.

- difficulties and obstacles encountered during the course
No difficulties or obstacles were observed as the participants were open-minded.
- observations of the adult educators regarding the course
It was a very interesting group, as the participants came from different ethnic backgrounds.

We all learned from each other.

- any other thoughts or recommendations regarding the intensive course and/or its improvement
Make the Handbook II widely available to educators.

4. Conclusions (*max. 10 lines*)

The training course was a very positive experience for all participants. The participants felt they learned a lot not just from the educator but from each other as well. They believe they are more aware of cultural differences but similarities as well and they loved to see how they shared some cultural aspects/traditions. The conclusion of this course was that we should all make an effort to be more respectful and tolerant towards different cultures. All participants are more 'curious' now about different cultures and they would like to learn more by visiting different community centres and festivals in Ireland that celebrate different cultures.