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INTERTool

- Presentation 30 mins -

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Abstract

The INTERTool project is aimed at providing European project managers and teams in adult education with the basic specific intercultural competencies necessary for successful transnational cooperation in the framework of European projects, with a strong focus on the virtual dimension.

To this end, virtual and face-to-face learning and training tools have been developed, that contribute to:

- Reconciling different communication and working styles and values brought into European projects
- Facilitating an effective type of moderation to solve problems during the project process taking into regard the emotional aspects of intercultural communication
- Organising intercultural communication in virtual environments
- Facilitating, mostly by virtual means, an efficient and effective intercultural team-building process
- Securing equality in the partnership caused by differences especially in the field of language competencies and cultural values

The training tools consist of a Guidance publication and an electronic toolkit.

The Guidance Publication serves for information and reference purposes on intercultural issues relevant to European project work. It is based on practical experience of organisations and individuals involved in European projects. It seeks to support project teams in identifying the intercultural challenges of European project work and using efficient and effective tools to bring out the best in multicultural teams.

The main aim of the electronic toolkit is to help teams capitalise on the diversity by being better aware and better prepared for the multicultural differences and harnessing these to develop and maintain a high performance multicultural team. The toolkit is used at the beginning and during the project to help elicit pertinent information about the team, its progress and how its performance is perceived by the project partners. Future developments are planned to apply the same methodology to support other kinds of multicultural teams.

This is a three year project with partners from Germany, Romania, Finland, Italy, Austria, Switzerland and the UK.

Learning outcomes for participants

Delegates will:

- become aware of the challenges faced by multicultural teams working on European lifelong learning projects
- see how the Intertool virtual tool can help manage diversity within a multicultural team.

Profile

Khawar Iqbal is a graduate with over 25 years experience in project management within the adult education sector. She is a member of a number of multicultural teams working on different aspects of adult education.