



Publishing anything about intercultural learning is always going to be a challenging exercise and the birth of this T-kit has been no exception to that rule. The opportunity to work on the subject was welcomed by all the authors (see biographies on the last pages) as our cooperation has been an intercultural process in itself.

We have tried to bring together our varied experiences and ideas to produce a T-kit which will help you to come to your own conclusions about intercultural learning theory and practice within the context of youth work and training.

At our first meeting in June 1999, we were able to define the contents and distribute responsibilities for writing the different chapters. Feedback and dialogue about our first drafts were followed by e-mail and revisions discussed at our second meeting in December of the same year. Each chapter is identified with the author(s) concerned, but has benefited from the constructive criticism of all those involved with the project, including the members of the overall T-kit editorial committee.

A couple of points should be noted. We realised early on that a publication of this nature can only hope to go part of the way in considering all the possible avenues to follow. Prioritising the list of contents was a hard job and demanded a lot of explanations and discussions. So, what you will find here is:

- some ways of looking at the context and importance of intercultural learning,

- summaries of some of the theories which we find helpful in understanding the bases for intercultural learning,
- tips for working out intercultural methodologies,
- a selection of different types of relevant methods,
- models of how to run thematic workshops,
- suggestions for going further,
- an evaluation form (as your feedback will be most important in working on future editions)

In many ways, it is possible to look at this T-kit as a companion volume to the publications coming out of the “all different – all equal” campaign, in particular the Education Pack and Domino. Both of those are still freely available in hard copies and on the web site of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance.

We hope you find stimulating ideas and useful methods here. One thing you will not find here is “ICL” – a common abbreviation of intercultural learning – we felt that the use of it only helps to exclude people from understanding.

We look forward to hearing how you assess this T-kit.

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