



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Grundtvig – Learning partnership

## DIALOGUE – TABLE

### UNITY IN DIVERSITY:

### Living, Learning and Working in a Diverse Society

Funding code: 2011-1-DE2-GRU06-07803

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## 1 | Introduction

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"Dialogue" is a widely used term. The most common definition: a conversation between two people. The dialogue as a method has a different meaning. His aim is an equal communication between peoples with different backgrounds and experiences.

The physicist David Bohm (1917 - 1992) developed a form of dialogue. He wanted to create a greater diversity of perspectives, new ideas to develop and to gain an understanding of complex issues.

### **Basic attitudes of dialogue can be:**

- **To listen**

Listening is the heart of the dialogue. You hear the talking with full attention without counter arguments.

- **Respect**

Accept opinions or ideas of another as your own. Other opinions based on their own life experience. This does not mean that you have to be in agreement!

- **Pronounce**

To talk about themselves and to have the courage to say what is important for me.

### **Literature:**

David Bohm, Donald Factor & Peter Garrett (1991): "Dialogue - A Proposal"

[http://thinkg.net/david\\_bohm/bohm\\_dialog\\_vorschlag.html](http://thinkg.net/david_bohm/bohm_dialog_vorschlag.html)

## 2 | Basic idea of dialogue table in our project

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Equality & Diversity issues around employment and employability

Encounters and exchange – peoples with different backgrounds and experiences

## 3 | Aims

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- a) To meet and talk with peoples with different backgrounds and experiences (different in terms of age, gender, nationality, Religion, occupation and commitment)
- b) Equal interchange of perceptions, attitudes and experiences
- c) Talks in a fair and open atmosphere – a discussion and controversy culture maintain
- d) To set an example for understanding and tolerance
- e) Learning from each other
- f) Together to develop new ideas

The result of the dialogue-Table can be an “embassy” (insights, claims, questions, requests or initiatives of the participants)

## 4 | Topic proposals

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- a) All our project meetings in project "Unity in diversity" are dialogue tables. One way to understand dialogue is through a thematic approach. That is connecting the shared stories of individuals, groups and organisations where 'themes' of respect, interdependence and diversity emerge often in relation to emerging workforce changes and developments. For example, when changes in labour markets introduce different cultures, ages, etc. thus creating a need to understand diversity within the notion of change. Three themes which emerged at our project meetings:

### **Connections**

How does equality and diversity-based organisations help connect people, groups and structures to new and emerging workforce changes and developments? What insights, claims and questions emerged during presentations, discussions and visits? To what extent have these opportunities fostered a greater understanding of unity and diversity especially in light of trans-European issues?

### **Sharing Cultural Experiences**

How have different cultural dialogical experiences helped develop partner understanding. How have issues emerged, histories been shared, experiences developed to better understand the difference and diversity. Does this lead to a greater understanding in relation to how we live, work and learn together.

### **Talking and listening**

What was said, what wasn't said, how did we listen, respect and support each other. What did we learn from each other and how has this influenced our work in between such meetings? How can such discussion inform what we need to say to ensure our diversity is embedded rather than omitted.

b) Africa getting to know (Example: Dialogue table in Schwerin)

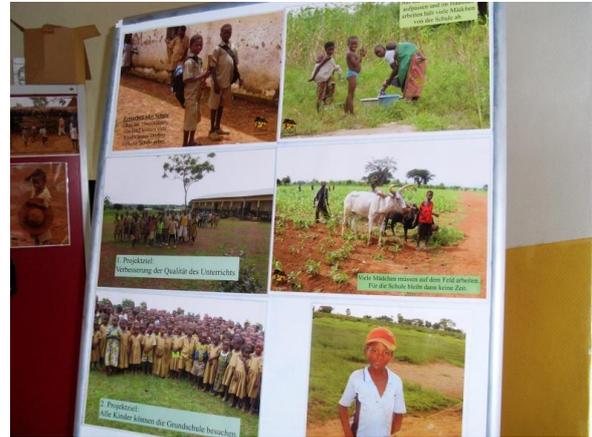
Music, short film, impressions and information with culinary samples with guests from Togo

## Besuch aus Afrika



Es wird eine Veranstaltung mit und für Selbsthilfegruppen, die im März dieses Jahres für das Kinderhaus Frieda in Lomé Spenden gesammelt haben und nun Hintergrundinformationen zu diesem und anderen Projekten des DAZ e.V. in Togo erhalten.

Am Mittwoch, 26. September 2012,  
10:00 - 12:00 Uhr  
im Saal des Kühlhauses (auf dem Hof),  
Dr. - Külz - Str. 3, 19053 Schwerin  
Platz der Freiheit



- b) Facebook unites cultures
- c) That's me - who are you? The tastes are different
- d) Respect and appreciation of women / girls in different ethnic communities
- e) Hip Hop - A youth culture without taboos or creative expression?
- f) ...
- g) ...
- h) ...