

# The melting iceberg

## Learn to swim in the sea of diversity and ambiguity



*An explorative learning journey for trainers, facilitators and youth workers who want to critically review their understanding and practice of intercultural learning.*

*Vienna, 20-25 October 2013*

### **Background**

The first T-Kit on Intercultural Learning has been written 15 years ago and has influenced greatly educational practice in the field of Non-formal learning and European youth work. An update of this T-Kit is currently being worked on.

SALTO Cultural Diversity in the UK has asked a group of experts to re-define intercultural competence; on the basis of this definition they made a research and produced a study on how intercultural competence is being addressed in Youth in Action projects – the report can be found here: <http://www.salto-youth.net/rc/cultural-diversity/publications/>.

In all the debates one aspect seems to be clear – the notion of “culture” and “Intercultural Learning” as applied in the practice of the

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*Call for participants*

European youth field is too static and fails to address important dimensions threatening social cohesion (such as social injustice, discrimination, power relations, ambiguous identities).

What is an adequate response to these developments for the European Youth field – in particular for the educational practice? New concepts and approaches are being developed and explored – eg. diversity conscious approach or the concept of ambiguity and change. Both are inviting to change perspectives, see more dimensions (social justice, discrimination, power relations, ambiguous identities) and reflecting personal attitudes.

## *Intentions of the training*

With this training course we would like to provoke and inspire. We are not interested in teaching the 'right' way but stimulate critical reflection – about personal attitudes, educational approaches and political understandings:


The specific intentions are:

1. Inspiring participants to look behind their understanding of culture and Intercultural Learning.
2. Inviting participants to experience what it means to be diversity conscious and able to deal with ambiguity and change.
3. Providing participants the opportunity and space to critically review their educational practice when it comes to intercultural learning.



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<p><b>Approach and Methodology</b></p>	<p>The course will invite participants to experience in different ways ambiguity and diversity as the two central concepts. The experiences offered aim to challenge participants on intellectual as well as emotional level. We aim to support participants reviewing profoundly their approach and understanding in relation to culture – and perhaps find themselves within the concept of ambiguity and diversity conscious approaches.</p>
<p><b>Participants</b></p>	<p>We are inviting 24 participants resident in YIA Program as well as neighboring countries who are:</p> <p>Trainers, Facilitators, Youth workers with experience in planning and facilitating international activities in the Youth in Action context (training courses, youth exchanges). They should have been actively involved in designing the educational programme of the activities and wishing to critically review their understanding and practice of intercultural learning.</p>
<p><b>Team of facilitators</b></p>	<p>Ahmet Sinoplu, Peter Hofmann, Camilla B. Johansen</p> 

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## **Application and Funding**

Interested?

Then apply using the form on the training calendar of [www.salto-youth.net](http://www.salto-youth.net). The selection will be done by the host of the training course, the Austrian national Agency for the Youth in Action programme together with the respective sending agencies of the selected participants. Thanks to the funding through the Youth in Action programme the costs of participation in the training is covered 100%.

Need for clarification? Write an email to:

[Marco.Frimberger@iz.or.at](mailto:Marco.Frimberger@iz.or.at)