

European Generation Link

Promote European Citizenship through Intergenerational and Intercultural Learning

Pilot Test Experience

Multiplier Seminar, Baden, September 2008



Intergenerational Learning in Practice: Our Pilot Test Experience

Judit Koppány Artemisszió Foundation Hungary



Pilot phase-participants

- The young (8 people)
 - ➤ Gender: 7 girls, 1 boy
 - > Age: early twenties
 - University students or young graduates
 - With or without experience of interviewing

- The old (10 people)
 - ➤ Gender: 6 women, 4 men
 - ➤ Age: 50+
 - Diverse countries of origin
 - Sometimes multiple countries of residence
 - Diverse professions

Altogether 10 stories



Remarks I

- Planning: Incorporation into existing activities or independent project
- Recruitment:
 - > Conscious choice: maximizing the diversity of migrants
 - > Young people: selection by inner motivation
- Matching: based on personal preferences of the young
- Interview guidelines:
 - > Preparing those without experience- giving key questions (see Guideline)
 - > Experience: Spontaneity matters!— let it flow



Remarks II

- Interview
 - practical arrangements:
 - Duration, location, consent
 - > Lack of previous experience is not a burden
 - ➤ No rejections
 - > Pay attention to sensitive issues
 - prepare the individual
 - follow up as an organizer
- Follow up is needed:
 - > Help when compiling the story
 - Possibility of correction
 - ➤ Need of approval



What stays afterwards?

For the young:

For the old:

- Strong experience
- Emotions in center
- Empathy
- "Cheerful old people"

- Sharing experience,
- time for reflection



Development of social competences

The life story was very interesting. Opening up for another person, a stranger is very brave. It is a challenging task to build trust, to create a connection...

It is great to talk to elder people who are intelligent, have opinion on diverse

matters, and are active even in their late 60s. After three hours, i felt that the interview has changed my lookout on life, as well.





Historical knowledge

- Structural, yet individual: personal histories
- "From all the stories, the most striking ones were those about Iraq: to compare here and there, now and in the 80s."





Hungarian context

Intergenerational learning:

No initiatives on the country level

Intercultural learning:

- Migrants coming from outside of Europe
- Future: second generation in increasing numbers



Suggestions for improvement

- Intergenerational learning:
 - ➤ Most participants of higher social class
 - ➤ Skype, email used to keep in touch with those left behind or scattered in the world
 - > Need to find new content, new method to teach
- Intercultural learning:
 - > Expansion of the target group (outside of Europe)
 - > Second generation migrants



Thank you for your attention!



BEST Institut für berufsbezogene Weiterbildung und Personaltraining GmbH
Mariahilfer Str. 8
A – 1070 Wien

T: +43-(0)1- 585 50 50

F: +43-(0)1- 585 50 50 - 77

I: www.best.at

www.european-generation-link.org



This project has been funded with support from the SOCRATES-GRUNDTVIG programme of the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained herein.