**Grundtvig Workshop. Dublin July 1st 2011**

**Developing multiculturalism: Cross- Cultural Communication**

**Key competence**: 6.1 Interpersonal, intercultural and social competences

**Definition of competence:**

Interpersonal competences cover all forms of behaviour that one must master as an individual in order to be able to participate in an efficient, constructive way and resolve conflict in social life, in interaction with other individuals (or groups) in personal, family and public contexts.

**Workshop outline.**

**Aim:**

Explore some aspects of the diversity of norms/ values/ behaviours associated with the cultures of the group members and to reflect on cross-cultural communication.

**Learning outcomes:**

* Exploration of / reflection aspects of own culture
* Awareness of some aspects of the different cultures represented in the group
* Awareness of some aspects of the diverse communication styles related to culture

**Introduction**

**Participants break groups of 8 with a mixture of nationalities.**

**Facilitator appointed to each group**

**Exercises: 1**

**Story of our names**:

Participants are asked to share the story of their name with the group with the following prompts

* My name
* How my name was chosen for me
* Who chose it for me
* Was there any special ceremony or ritual at which my name was given

Brief group discussion about whether our names and how we get them tell us anything about our cultures

Brief feed back to main group – one/two points from each group.

30 minutes

**Exercise 2**

**Culture and communications**

**Part 1:**

Participants move into a group with their own nationality

Participants are given a handout to complete on communication protocols/ customs involved in different types of relationships in their own culture including;

* Greetings in my culture
* Eye contact in my culture
* Touching in my culture

20 minutes

**Part 2**

Participants move back into the mixed groups

Facilitator leads a discussion around the similarities and differences in theses aspects of communication in the different cultures represented

Group discuss how these similarities/ differences might influence cross-cultural communications

Group prepares one/two points for feedback to the main group

30 minutes

Brief feedback to main group

Brief summary/ conclusion

10 minutes