Interculturally Competent Educator of 21st Century

| Training Program |

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How can we learn to live together in the ‘global village’ if we cannot manage to live together in the communities to which we naturally belong - the nation, the region, the city, the village, the neighbourhood? (Delors, 1996)

**Intercultural education** describes cultural diverse learning environment and highlights the interaction among different cultures, beliefs and values:
- celebrates diversity,
- respects differences,
- promotes equality,
- advocates equity.

**Cultural sensitivity** describes a set of skills that allow us to understand and learn about people whose cultural background is not the same as ours.

**Intercultural competence** is ability to interact effectively and appropriately with people from other cultures.

The novelty of our training program is to bridge the gap between educators, improve academic competency and facilitate cultural sensitivity in order to embrace the entire socio-cultural spectrum into the educational system.

**The training program**

- Diversity in society
  - Concept of intercultural education

- Intercultural communication

- Intercultural environment

- Didactic materials

- Intercultural interactions

- Cultural sensitivity

- Intercultural competence

**Learning to be**

**Take home message:**
We speak different languages, we come from different cultures, we keep different traditions. No matter who you are or where you are, you are not responsible for the past, but you are responsible for the future.

- Promote equality and encourage equity.

Lack of interest of participants and cultural insensitivity.

**Strengths:**
- Participants: Educators working with children aged 1-6 years.
- Structure: 4 meetings, each lasting for 4 hours.
- Measure: Intercultural Sensitivity Scale (Chen & Starosta, 2000).

**Goal:** The goal of the training program is to empower the educators to become culturally sensitive and prepare them to interact with children from varied cultural backgrounds.

- Respect
- Tolerance
- Acceptance

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