

# Intercultural Communicative Competence Training Programme





Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union INCrEAsE - Intercultural
Competences for Adult Educators
working with Multicultural and
Multilingual Learners
2019-1-R001-KA204-063872



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### Introduction

The present training programme is developed in the framework of the project *INCrEAsE — Intercultural Competences for Adult Educators Working with Multicultural and Multilingual Learners*, co-funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme, Strategic Partnerships for adult education, Ref. no.: 2019-1-RO01-KA204-063872.

The INCrEAsE project's objectives are deeply rooted in the current European reality. Although there are a growing need and interest in intercultural communication due to the multicultural European context, most professionals working in adult education have no training in this field. The INCrEAsE project meets this need by proposing an Intercultural Communicative Competence Training Programme for Adult Educators.

The training programme is offering an innovative way to promote adult educators' intercultural development, provide unique opportunities for adult educators to confront their ethnocentric worldviews and to consider the ways culture influences their teaching and their adult learners' learning.

## Target group

The main, direct target group and the main beneficiaries of this training programme are adult educators of multicultural and multilingual learners. This training programme is designed to equip adult educators with the competencies necessary to deal with intercultural situations in their learner groups in a sensitive and constructive manner.

The indirect target group is multicultural and multilingual learners, international students, migrants, and refugees. While developing this training material, it was the INCrEAsE partnership's goal to support them to overcome stressors, such as the language barrier, some cultural aspects of a foreign country, lack of religious facilities, strained relationship with family, and lack of social support.

The desirable long-term impact of this training programme as well as all activities of the INCrEAsE project is to shape positive attitudes toward multiculturalism and cultural diversity in society, adult education centres/organisations, universities, services, businesses, companies, hospitals, and elsewhere.

# Main goal and objectives of the programme

#### Main goal:

The main goal of this training programme is to strengthen the intercultural communication competence (ICC) of adult educators working in various formal and non-formal educational settings in order to help them to overcome the challenges arising from their everyday work with multicultural and multilingual learners' populations.

#### **Objectives:**

- increase adult educators' level of cultural awareness, deeper understanding of inter-cultural and interpersonal dialogue.
- deepen adult educators' understanding of the world and its cultures;
- teach them how to effectively address issues of tolerance, fairness, and equity in education;





- develop adult educators' capacity to be empathic and reflexive and to recognize cultural and socioeconomic differences leading to treating diversity;
- improve adult educators' relevant management and andragogic skills necessary to respond adequately to diversity through teaching;
- teach them to integrate learners with respect to cultural diversity and linguistic issues.

## Description

#### The INCrEAsE training programme for adult educators consists of two modules:

Module 1: ICC basics: constituent elements, dimensions, and assessment tools 20 hours

Unit 1. Constituent Elements of ICC 7 hours
Unit 2. Dimensions of ICC 7 hours
Unit 3. Competitive Assessment Tools 6 hours

Module2: Practical application of ICC: practical exercises, simulations, and case studies 40 hours

Unit 1. Practical exercises on application of various methods 15 hours
Unit 2. Case studies on intercultural competence of adult educators 15 hours

Unit 3. Practical application of ICC in specific countries 10 hours per country

The first module introduces adult educators to the theory of intercultural competence (ICC), related notions, and ideas. In the three units of this module, learners are introduced to constituent elements of ICC, dimensions of ICC, and available ICC assessment tools. This module is designed for a total of 20 hours.

The second module features various practical exercises of ICC application, simulations, and different useful case studies. Its first two units are designed for 30 hours, and the remaining 10 hours are allocated for the third unit about the practical application of ICC in **specific countries**, namely, Romania, Lithuania, Greece, Spain, Italy, and Cyprus, taking into account these countries' language and culture aspects, as well as everyday life and education system perspectives.

There are reflection exercises and questions after each unit, as well as after each of the modules.

**Note**: The whole training programme, its constituent units, topics, and duration of each one of them are only recommended. The materials, references, included links for further study, and methods suggested here should not be adopted or used word for word but rather modified and adapted according to each adult educator's target group and needs.