



"Gender Issues" Mission: Impossible?

Some 20 youth leaders and youth workers from nine countries of both sides of the Mediterranean met for a six-day training course on gender issues from 4 to 11 November in Portugalete, in the Basque Country in Spain.

The courses' main aims were to increase the awareness of participants in the Euromed framework: gender issues, religion, cultural background, as well as to increase their knowledge and skills, encourage their creativity and to know more about the Euromed Youth Programme. The participants, from Italy, Lebanon, France, Syria, Austria, Egypt, UK, Tunisia and the Basque Country (Spain) used either English or French as their working language.



Focusing on a better understanding of action 1 Youth Exchanges, participants have had the possibility to share their experience and cultural background. They discovered the elements of a project, communicated in a group and within an international team, as well as risk assessment, and began to build some common project ideas.

In their evaluations, participants said that this training has "changed their lives". Some of them are already applying for EVS

and Youth Exchanges in their countries. The group was extremely creative, always surprising the trainers in a very positive way. The last day, participants prepared a treasure hunt for the team of trainers, which led us to find four T-shirts that they had made, with a photo of the group and a printed sentence: 'Mission Accomplished' printed on them.

The team enjoyed this Training course: it was not just a training experience, it was a real team-learning experience both during

the preparation and the implementation. Another training course on Gender Issues is going to take part in Marmande, France from the 11 to 19 March 2006. It will be run by the same team of TOTEM trainers. The long-term Training Course was designed by SALTO Euromed Resource Center and organised in cooperation with the Italian, Egyptian and Polish National Agencies.

This training for trainers in Euromed has been very helpful for the four trainers of "Mission Impossible" in terms of support, acquiring knowledge, improving skills, working methods and experiences of the TOTEm.

Trainers: Mouloud Salhi, Cathy Baccamo, Giuseppe Marletta, Zurine Arruza
Hosting Organisation:
KILUMILIKLIK KULTUR ELKARTEA

