

## OBSERVATION

### ACTIVITY 1

#### THE HUGE BUILDING

Participants are divided into 2 or 4 teams. They will have at their disposal paper and scotch for building a construction as tall as possible. In the end, the construction will have to sustain a weight of 0.5 kg. The winning team is the one who builds the tallest construction, but which can sustain the weight. The weight will be the final test, they won't have the possibility to try during the building session.

Objectives:

- Creativity
- Team work
- Innovation
- Resource allocations
- The recognition of qualities inside the team
- The division of tasks
- The assuming of responsibility

Relationship consolidation between participants.

### ACTIVITY 2

#### WHO HAS THE BATTERIES?

An exercise of negotiation and interdependence

Resources needed:

for each small group of participants (4-5 members) an electric flashlight which can be dismantled in at least 5 different parts and functions with a pair of batteries rather than with one.

Time allowed: aprox. 90 minutes – depending on the size of the groups.

10 minutes for presenting the exercise

40 minutes to fulfill the task

40 minutes for analysis

Step by step

Take the flashlights and put the similar components together in a bowl (for example the bulbblights into a bowl; the batteries in another). Divide the group into smaller ones and give to each group a bowl.

Explain the exercise to the group: their task is to “put together a sistem that functions”. The groups have to work together, as a team, taking group decisions for strategies and tactics before actually doing something.

In a few moments the participants will figure out that they will have to trade with other for components in order to fulfill the task. Some of them may be tempted to steal resources from others. The only thing that won't be figured out easily and by everybody is that batteries have to be traded in pair for other singular components. Sometimes, the group having the batteries will choose consciously to trade only one battery. The activity will end when each group has a functional flashlight or when they are in an deadlock.

Evaluate the exrecise with the entire group

Reflection and evaluation

There are some aspects to reflect on. A starting point could be the analisis of different processes – both having in mind the team work and the trades between different groups. How can you work together? What worked and what didn't? What did you decided, as a group, that you ant to succes through this exercise? Your strategies corresponded with your desires and were successful?

The main element concerning the learning pocess is defenetly the question of cooperation and independence. In order to put togethe the maximum number of working sistemas, the groups have to work togther, not one against the other. But since the group having the batteries will perceive itself as having more resources (or that is how it is perceived by others) this could become a powerful imbalance. How do you handle this? How do you feel when you are in a more (or less) powerfull situation? This differnce in power is just perceived, or is it real?

What is needed in order to brake this bareers and work together with others for better results for everybody?