Activity: Drawing a house

Brief description

Participants work in teams of two, sitting back to back. The first team member draws a picture and describes it to his/her colleague who will draw it as well based on the verbal description.

Goals

- Understand the effects of communication and perception
- Analyse the challenges of communication processes
- Exercise communication strategies

Time

45 – 60 minutes

Method

- Culture-unspecific
- Interactive

Material

- Pen
- Paper

Implementation

The trainer divides the participants into teams of two and asks them to sit back to back. Then she/he asks one team member to draw a picture showing a house in a rural landscape. Participants have 5 minutes to do so.
After completing the picture, the team member describes his picture to his/her partner in detail. The second team member draws a picture according to the description. The participants present their pictures.
The trainer collects feedback on the following questions:

- When you compare your pictures: how similar/different are they? In your opinion, what are the reasons for this?
- What did you find difficult about the activity? What helped in the process?
- What would have helped to make the pictures look more similar?
- What does this mean for your communication in your everyday working life?
- How can you use your learnings when thinking about appropriate communication strategies for (a) providing a new employee with an orientation to a new workplace, (b) describing performance expectations to a new team member, (c) providing and receiving feedback, (d) establishing relationships with each other?

Notes

n/a

Source

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