

Methodology Workshop

”Decoding visual materials in the context of participatory photo interviews in ASEM research projects - illustration along cases from learning at work”

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ASEM LLL Hub,
Research Network 2:
Workplace learning

Working places as
learning spaces:
contextualising lifelong
learning in Asia and
Europe

Participatory photo
interview method
(Bettina Kolb) to
collect empirical
material for the case
study



We asked the participants:

"In this project we want to know about how people learn in, through and around their work. We also want to capture that visually with photos of typical working processes. We want to ask you therefore to take at least 5 photos of what you consider typical with respect to your experienced learning opportunities at your particular workplace."



Why Participatory Photo Interview?

- because working places are highly complex environments
- to get insight in participants' own perceptions and observations – to give participants s voice
- to help the participants to recall cognition and emotion
- to bridge cultural-linguistic communication gaps
- to allow intercultural comparative interpretation of empirical material



Workshop schedule

10:00-10:15 Introduction

Making groups

10:15-10:45 Working in groups (see step 1-3)

10:45-11:15 Together: Discovering the text behind the pictures (interviews)

11:15-11:30 Making hypothesis (fill out the table)



Plan – working in groups

1. Clustering the photo material (manifestation):

Please look at all the pictures in your group. Without interpreting the photos, please build some relevant categories and give a name to each category. „The photos are speaking to us“ – no learning interpretation is needed at this step.

2. Choosing a representative for each group

Please choose a photo that is representative for each category. Give the representative picture a name.

3. Interpreting and linking to learning space (latent knowledge/implicit meaning)

Now please work with the pictures you have chosen as representatives for each group. Please interpret the pictures (the representatives for each group). What do we not see in the picture, but need to interpret? Link these photos to learning spaces and reformulate the names.



Plan – working together

4. The person's view (explicit knowledge)

Now we ask the persons who took the pictures about their own view on the pictures they took. Why did they take these pictures? (function like a text of interviews)

5. Putting together and making hypothesis

Now we can put the whole information together (step 3 and 4). What does the persons tell us about their learning spaces at work?

Please fill out the table

themes/categories - interpretation - the person's view - learning space

