









# Learning in Facilitated Teams (Poland) DESK RESEARCH









# Learning in teams – characteristics











# 1. Group vs Team

- Every team is a group but not every group is a team.
- > A team is a group of people who work together towards a common goal.
- > The conditions that have to be fulfilled for the group to become a team:
  - Division of functions and tasks.
  - Complementarity of skills.
  - The commitment to work together and achieve common goals.
  - Mutual responsibility.









# 2. The processes on which learning in teams is based

- Interaction between team members.
- Exchange of views and experiences.
- Dialogue and constructive conflict.
- > Openness.
- Mutual support.
- Mutual respect.









# 3. The factors influencing the effectiveness of team learning

- Potential of team members
  - Attention to detail.
  - High level of compromise.
  - Openness to the experience of other team members.
  - Extrovert personality.









#### Team composition

- The diversity of team members.
- A small number of members.
- The compactness of the team.

#### Team work

- Ambitious goals.
- Acceptable way of working.
- Good communication between team members.









### 4. The advantages of team learning

- Synergy of knowledge.
- Rejection of conventional thinking.
- Experimentation.
- Obtaining a holistic view of the problem.









### 5. The disadvantages of team learning

- Time-consuming.
- Conformity.
- Defensive behaviour and the risk of conflict.









# Three concepts of team learning in an organization











# **1.** The team learning as the learning of individual elements of the organization and of the whole organization

- Competence and effectiveness growth of the team as part of the organization.
- Coding common knowledge in the form of sets of procedures.











### 2. The learning organization (Peter Senge)

- Learning is a fundamental value and learning itself is integrated with the organization's strategy.
- The learning organization has the characteristics of a living organism that evolves, learns and constantly changes.
- > The team is the primary learning unit of the organization.









# 3. Team learning as part of the knowledge management process in an organization

- Knowledge is a resource that can be collected, used internally, and capitalized.
- There are two types of knowledge:
  - "Hidden knowledge" valuable, subjective insights and skills of individual employees.
  - "Explicit knowledge" existing procedures.











#### > Innovations are based on the cycle:

- Transformation of hidden knowledge into explicit knowledge.
- Improving new knowledge by employees.
- Creating new hidden knowledge.









### > This continuous transformation of knowledge is stimulated by:

- Redundancy, i.e. overlapping tasks of employees and teams.
- Team work (dialogue and constructive conflict).
- Using metaphors in everyday communication within the organization.









# Methods of team learning









## 1. Action Learning / Action Reflection Learning

The method was created in the 1940s by Reginald Revans. For the first time it was used at GE Company in 1975. Action Learning is based on Kolb's learning cycle and can be reduced to the following formula:

### $\mathsf{L} = \mathsf{Q} + \mathsf{P} + \mathsf{R}$

where: L - learning, Q – questioning (ability to ask questions), P - programmed knowledge (traditional ways of knowledge transfer), R – reflection.

The method is based on open questions:

➢ four "major" questions - where? who? when? what?

>and three "minor" questions - why? how many? how much?











# **2. Action Research**

The creator of this method is the pioneer of social psychology - Kurt Lewin.

The basis of Action Research is: research, action and participation.

"Research" provides new knowledge, "action" means changing the starting situation of the team and "participation" means the use of changes by employees.









# **3. Action Science**

This method was described in 1985, in the book "Action Science: Concepts, Methods, and Skills for Research and Intervention".

Action Science is dedicated to crisis, difficult and unique situations. The starting point is the assumption that knowledge is only a system of hypotheses.

After analysing the effects of possible actions, you can overthrow the "existing knowledge" and build "new knowledge".









# **Desk research reports**

1. Czekan W., Lenart-Gansiniec R., Raport *Nowoczesne metody zespołowego uczenia się pracowników w grupie wiekowej 50+,* Projekt LIFT-Learning In Facilited Teams (Poland)

2. Gąsienica M., Sołtysińska I., Kocurek M. (2017), Raport Zespołowe uczenie się, przegląd koncepcji, perspektywa organizacji, perspektywa firm szkoleniowych, Projekt LIFT-Learning In Facilited Teams (Poland)









# Thank you for your attention