



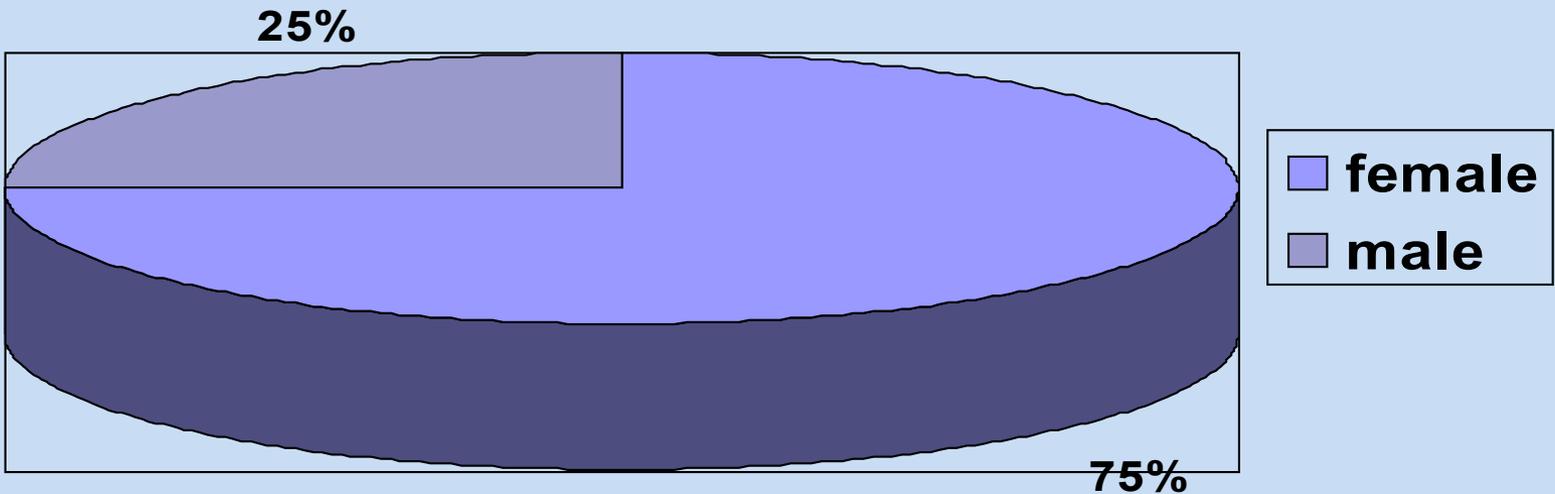
Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Teachers` opinion about intercultural education

**“Ionel Teodoreanu” School,
Iași - Romania**

The structure of the investigated grup

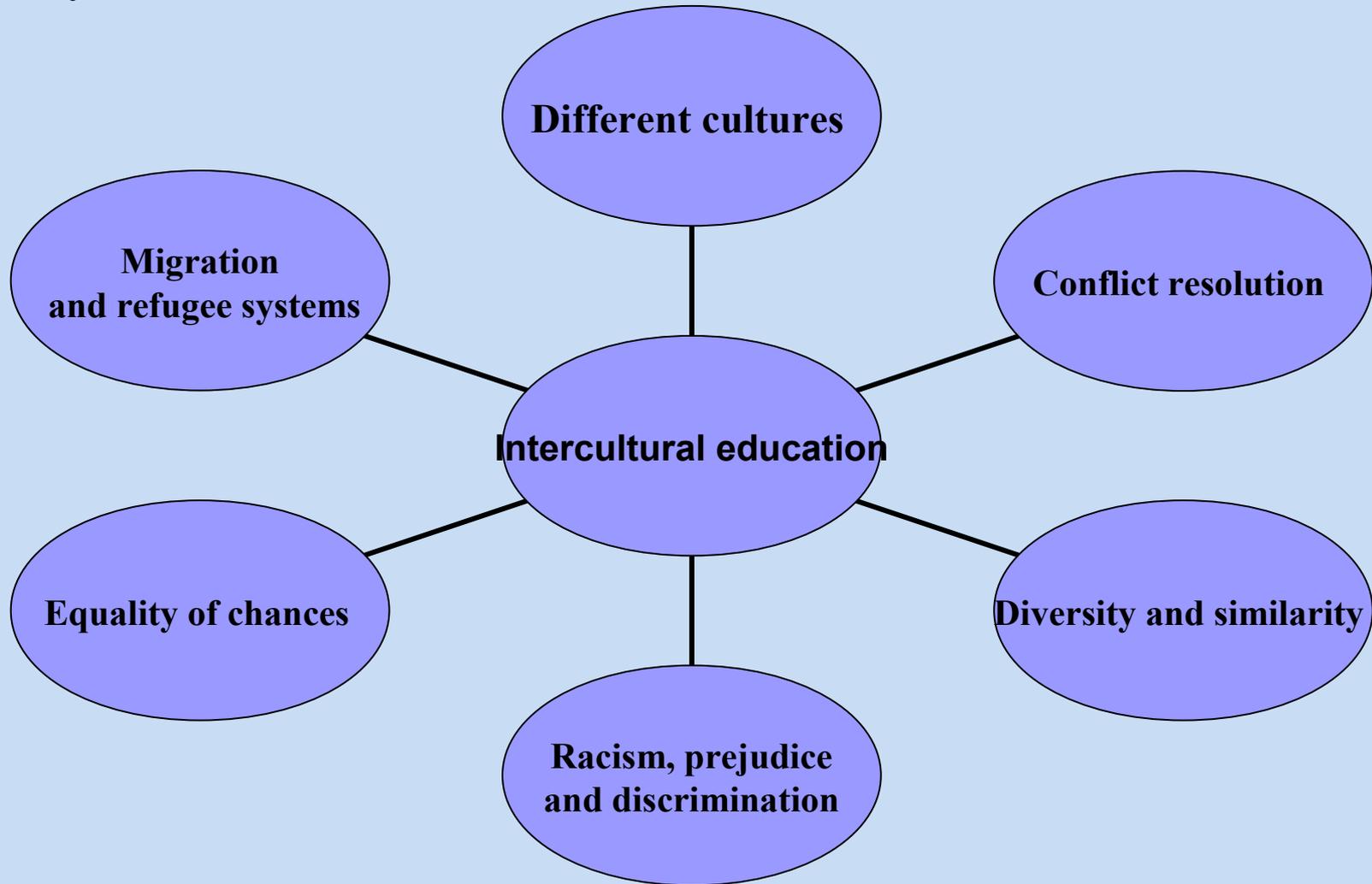


What do you think intercultural education means?

- *exploring similarity of experiences despite differences in culture heritage*
- *supporting people to be activists for equality and to have a positive attitude to diversity*
- *exploring how to accommodate diversity, how to bring different groups of people together and to interact for the development of us all*

What do you think intercultural education means?

Key Themes





What is aiming intercultural education?

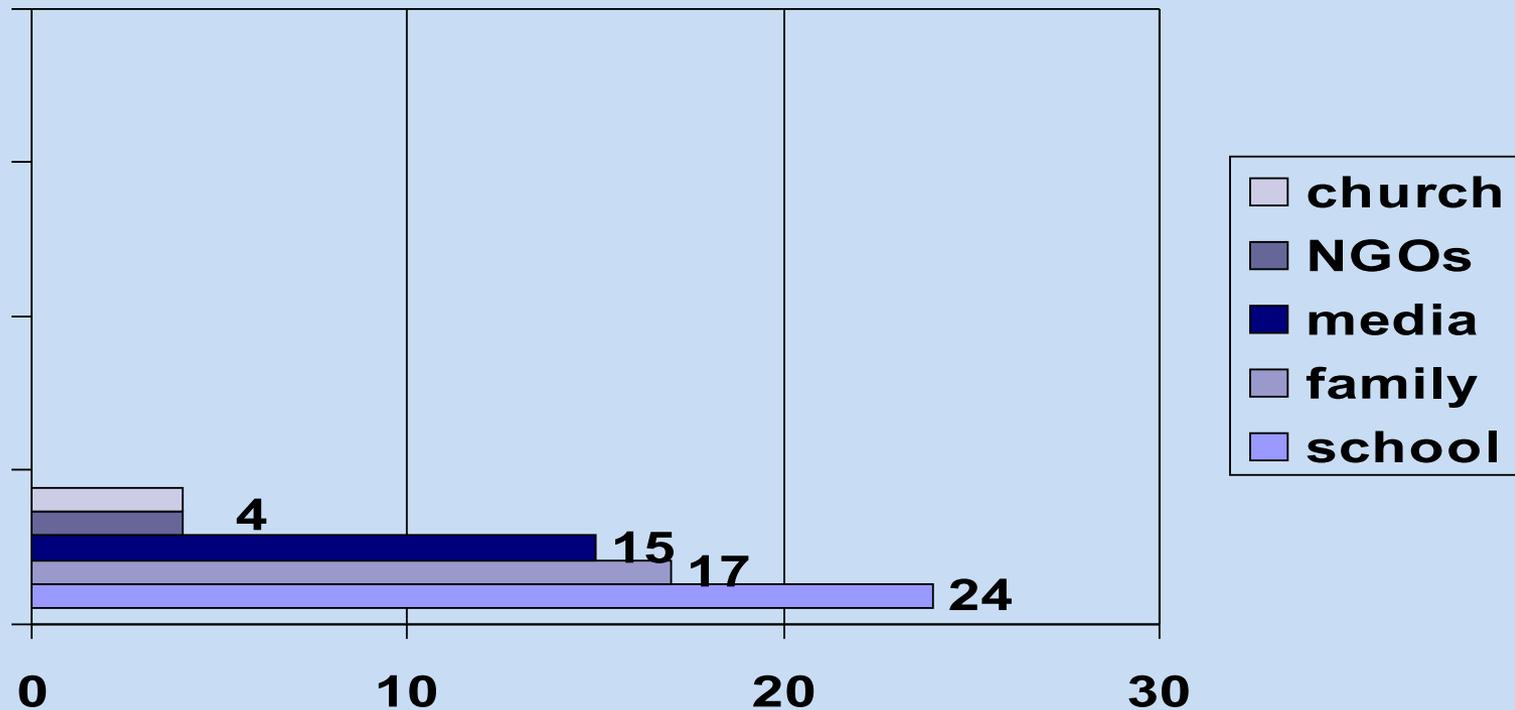
- to make pupils more aware of the diversity and the equality of cultures;
- to makes pupils ready to live in a fairer and plural society;
- to ensure equality of participation and an entitlement for all children to access all areas of the curriculum;
- to develop empathy, tolerance and respect.



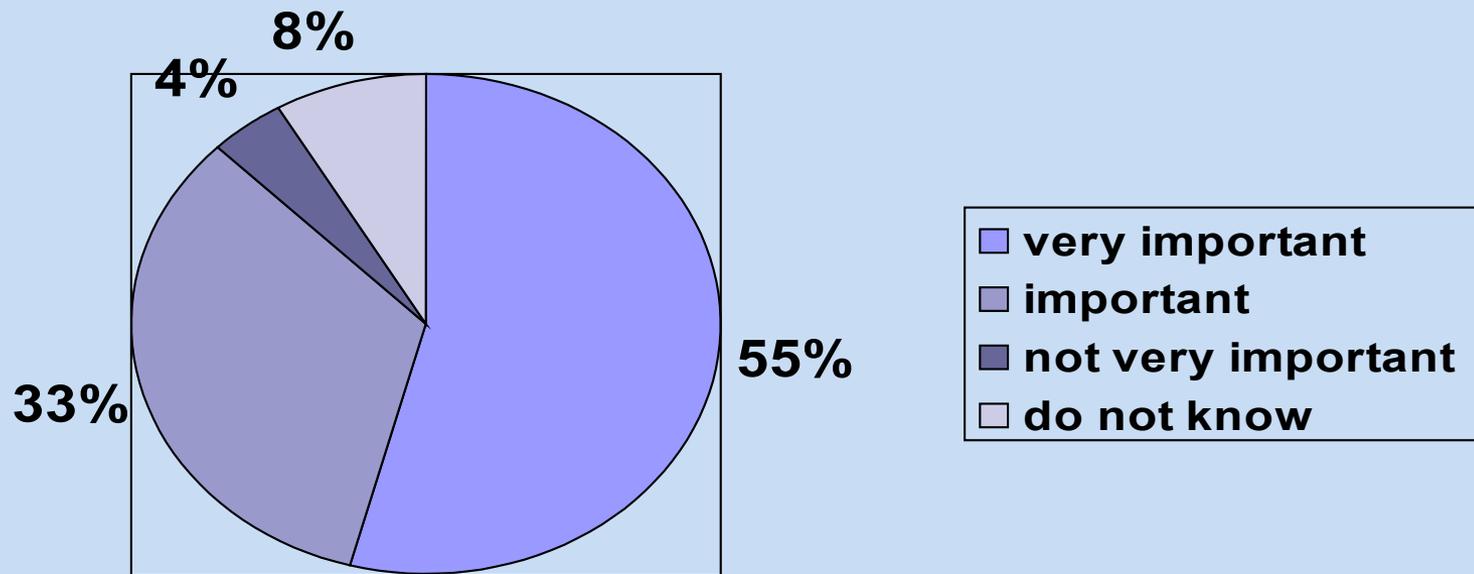
What are the benefits of intercultural education for the pupils?

- it encourages the child's curiosity about cultural and social difference;
- it helps to develop and support the child's imagination by normalising difference;
- It helps to develop the child's critical thinking;
- It helps to prevent racism.

Which institutions do you think are responsible for the creation of an intercultural education?



How is intercultural education valued generally in your school?



What are the greatest challenges related to the involvement of intercultural education at your school?

- teaching and affirming children from diverse religious backgrounds;
- combating racism in the school, community and society;
- acquiring the knowledge and understanding of the diversity of cultural codes and practices within the school community;
- implementing intercultural dimensions in the curriculum.



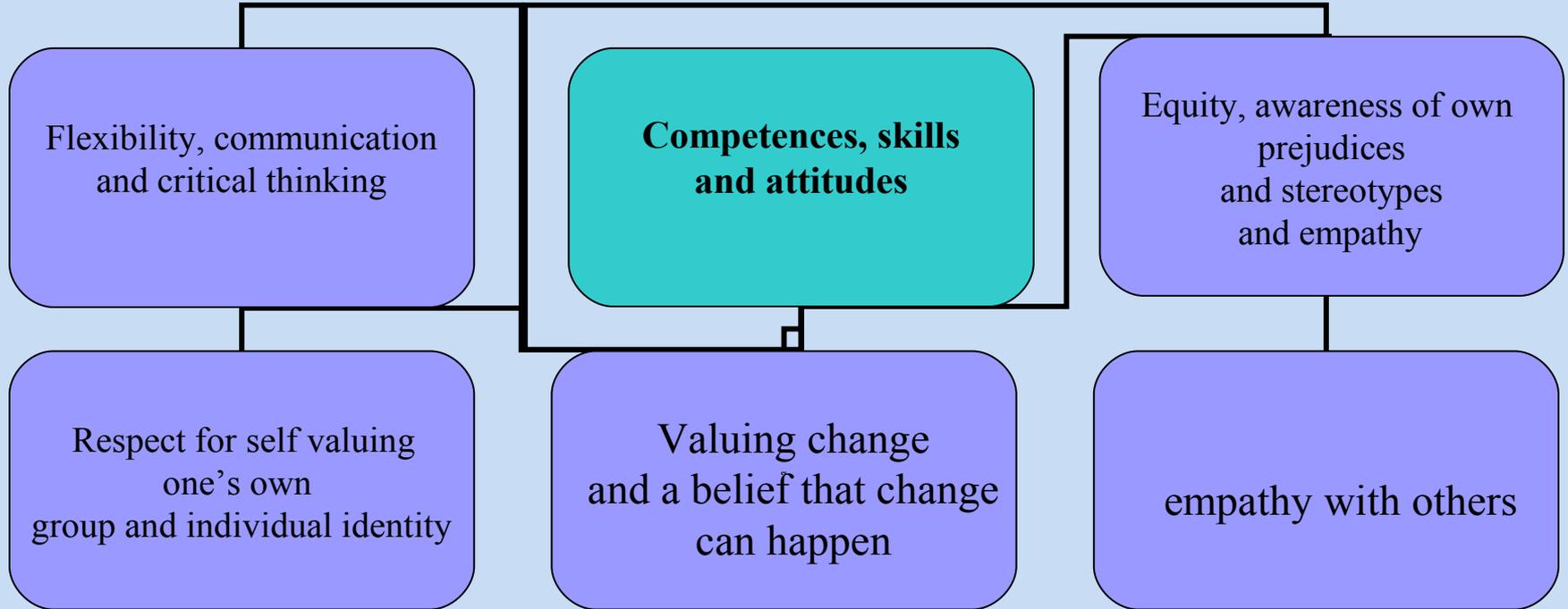
Mention three methods you frequently use in order to insure an intercultural dimension of education

- Case study
- Role play
- Debate
- Portfolios
- Lectures
- Posters
- Videos

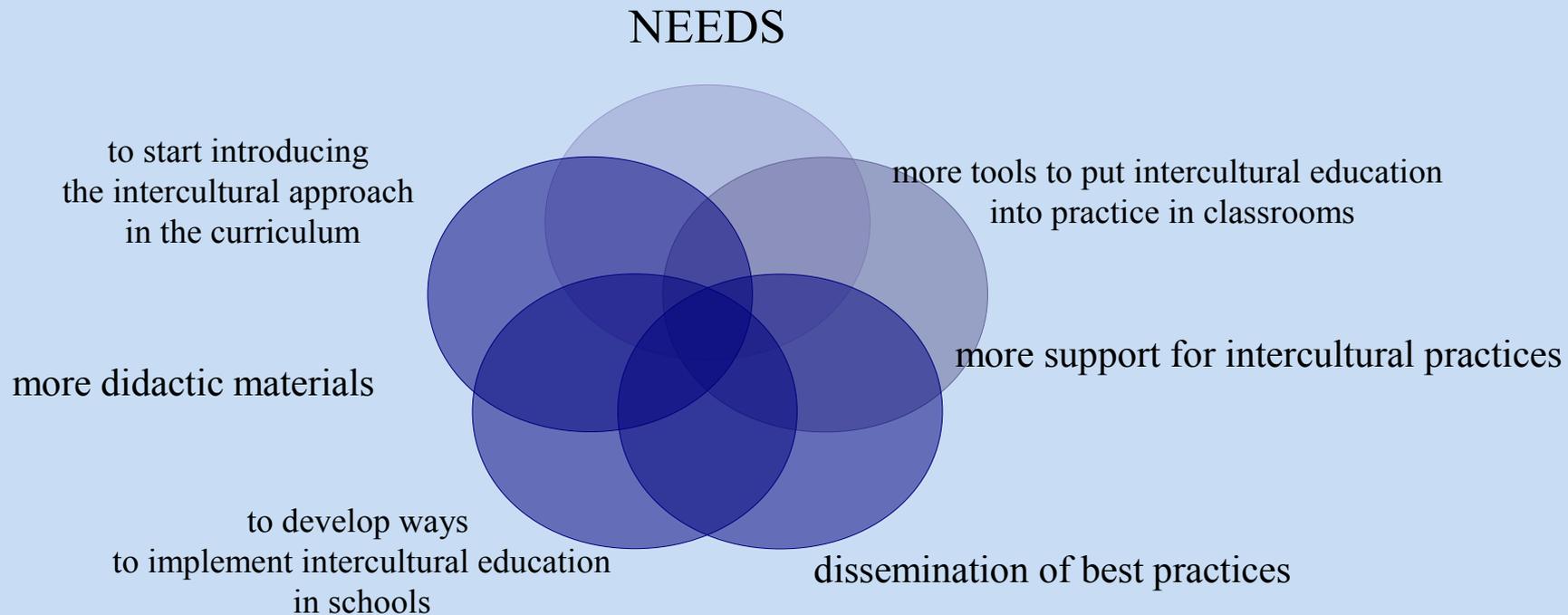
Please, tell us about school practices and activities you are aware of which follow your intercultural education perspective

- Use songs and games from a variety of countries;
- Organise a number of thematic days/weeks;
- Use authentic materials where possible;
- Have plenty of visual supports: pictures, photos, maps etc. in use ;

What kind of competences, skills, attitudes do you think an intercultural teacher should have?



What are the need and the gaps in intercultural education teacher training programs?



GAPS

- lack of information
- teachers' motivation
- training of teachers, both in-service and initial
- antiracist education
- cultural diversity is perceived in a very simplistic way
- practical knowledge
- lack of participation of social actors in decision making



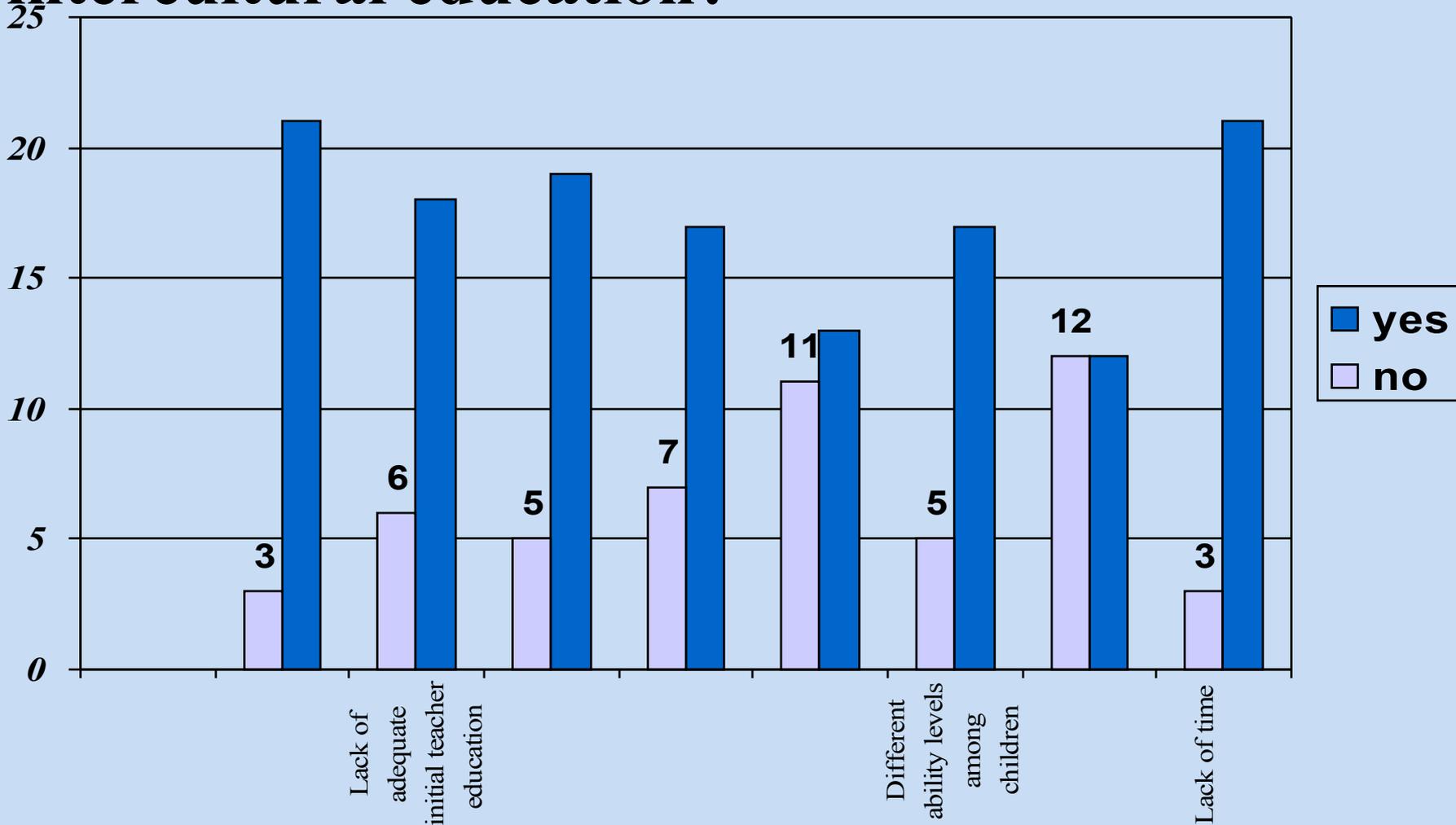
Write some suggestions, if any, to improve the training of teachers in intercultural education.

- encourage teachers to travel;
- more discussion and dissemination of best practices;
- reflection on how to implement intercultural education;
- more cultural exchanges within school from different countries;

Indicate your judgement:

| | Totally disagree | Partly disagree | No opinion | Partly agree | Totally agree |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Intercultural activities can make a positive contribution to changing pupils attitudes towards other communities and cultures. | 0 | 0 | 3 | 18 | 3 |
| Intercultural activities can help to integrate immigrant families into the school. | 0 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 7 |
| Teachers should introduce comparisons between different languages and cultures in any class. | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 18 |
| Intercultural activities should be integrated into the school curriculum . | 1 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 3 |
| Intercultural activities can develop pupils' aural discrimination . | 2 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 5 |
| Intercultural activities may allow me to integrate fully pupils from minority ethnic backgrounds into the group. | 1 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 10 |

What in your experience has acted as limitations to your engagement with intercultural education?



Conclusions

- Preparing teachers for working in multicultural contexts is a challenge of the present;
- The majority of teachers are aware of the relationship between intercultural education and effects of development processes;
- Formation of teachers is needed (not mainstream academic formation but direct confrontation with problems/situations);
- to promote intercultural education, teacher preparation programmes need to be designed so that they provide teachers with opportunities to critically reflect on their values and practices, as well as on the impact their work has on the community.