



Multiculturalism, Migration, Mathematics Education and Language

M³EaL Project International Workshop

Lucca, 19 September 2014

The M³EaL Project

**Franco Favilli, Project Coordinator
CAFRE of the University of Pisa**

The partners

**(IT) CAFRE – University of Pisa
(Coordinator)**

(AT) Universität Wien

(CZ) Univerzita Karlova v Praze

(FR) Université Paris Est Créteil – IUFM

(GR) Πανεπιστήμιο Θεσσαλίας

(IT) Università di Siena

(NO) Universitetet i Agder

Multicultural classrooms

- The multicultural nature of modern society constitutes one of the most significant changes to have influenced schools in many European countries, especially at primary and middle school level.

The teacher

- The teacher is seldom aware of the need to rethink and if necessary modify his/her methodological and pedagogical approach. This attitude is even more evident in maths teachers who often consider their subject universal and culture-free.

Maths and multiculturalism

- Little has been done in Europe as far as maths teaching in multicultural contexts is concerned. The different languages and cultures present in the classroom make the teaching/learning process even more arduous than it already is, especially for pupils from minority cultures and/or with a migrant background or for Roma pupils.

Project products and target groups

- This project envisages the design and piloting of materials for both the initial and in-service training of middle school maths teachers who constitute the project's primary target group. The secondary target group is their pupils, in particular those from other cultures.

Teaching materials focus and aims

- The materials will focus also on the role of language in the communication of mathematical concepts and their aim will be to stimulate the maths teacher's awareness of the need to find a satisfactory balance between mathematical language and classroom language, especially when dealing with pupils with a different culture and language.

Teaching materials additional aims

- The project's training proposals will be aimed at promoting maths teaching strategies which are relevant to activities and problems taken from everyday life.

THANK YOU