

Issue number: 33

Issue: Bring a friend or Plan D = Diversity

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Participants: Silke, Sarah, Ute, Barbara, Martin, Rani

Summary of discussion, conclusions and/or recommendations:

What is diversity?

How can we diversify diversity?

Do we need special programmes?

How do we make it possible for ietm to reflect the diversity we see in everyday life?

How do we promote the work of professional artist with disabilities? How do we meet "eye-to-eye" as equals rather than facilitator and client?

Many people from diverse backgrounds involved in arts and culture are unaware of ietm and could benefit from being involved. Why is this?

There are some significant barriers for some people.

The cost of being involved, the lack of translation (including sign language), some venues are physically inaccessible. It would have been difficult for a person in a wheelchair to get involved in the Open Space event in the Radial System. Some of the procedures, information and meeting formats are inaccessible. These things can be solved easily. They have been solved at other meetings though other organisations. How can we learn from others?

How do we welcome diversity?

What are the benefits?

We think that ietm would be enriched by difference and diversity.

Action: We would like to encourage members of ietm to "bring a friend" to the next ietm in Glasgow. We think the way forward is to instigate a series of micro-actions that call upon individual responsibility rather than expecting the ietm organizers to sort out a special programme.