

Activities for workcamp participants

IM-PROVE application introduction

Length: 10 minutes intro + 20 minutes work

Main objective(s): Understanding how IM-PROVE works and how its usage can help the participants; exploring the IM-PROVE themselves

Materials needed: each participant or in couples - smartphone, with internet connection, if you have a beamer you can project the presentation or a video, but you will manage without it. For the internet - if you only ask them to download the app in advance, they can do it and then you shouldn't need the internet to use it during the project.

Outline (step by step methodology):

IM-PROVE is a simple application accessible on-line (improve.inexsda.cz) or in app store for iOS and Android.

Basically, it's the on-line tool that help volunteers in different roles (participants, leaders, trainers...) reflect on what they learnt during their volunteering activities. You can have all the volunteering activities recorded here and the app will "translat" your experiences into the language of competences, especially the soft competences.

How does it work? Easily:

Step 1 - Sign up on improve.inexsda.cz

Step 2 - The application will lead you through filling in your profile (if you want to)

Step 3 - You can enter your first project - this project you're on now. The app will lead you through it. You basically put some info about the type of project, your role in it, select few experiences you have already done in the project (such as I've come to the venue of the project by myself) and put some details to these. After this process, the application will show you, which competences have you developed by these experiences.

Step 4 - Then, you can either add other experiences to the same project, add new projects or browse through other functionalities of the application.

Other things IM-PROVE can help you with:

- Your CV - to fill in, which competences you have
- Your Youthpass - in case you have participated in a project granted by the Erasmus + Programme, you should fill in what you learnt at this project to Youthpass - IM-PROVE will advise you, how to do it.
- Presenting your profile on the outside - if you want, you can activate your IM-PROVE public profile and show the world (friends or potential employers), which competences you have developed by volunteering.
- Recognition of the experience - for each project, you can ask for an eBadge, which will be confirmed by the organizer of your project. This eBadge will display on the public profile and will prove you really have the experience your public profile is showing. It raises credibility of this page, especially for example if you apply for a job.
- Selecting your personal goal(s) and the competences you would like to focus on - better target your learning and choose the next volunteering activities based on what you actually need to work on.

To sum up, IM-PROVE will help you realize what you learnt and what you're able to do, plan your next steps in volunteering and present your valuable experience on the outside (e.g. on the labour market) to show, that volunteering is - among other things - valuable tool how to learn important competences for personal and professional life.

Once this presentation is done, ask participants to work themselves (or in couples in case some of them don't have a smartphone), register and follow the steps you were presenting to actually touch the application and find out which competences they have already developed at this project. You can use this self-reflection time of putting experiences into the app every day or every two days to motivate the participants to use it and reflect by themselves regularly.