

"TAKE A CHANCE  
BE A CHANGE"

# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO WORK IN A TEAM?

INEX MESSENGER  
WORKSHOP 2019

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## INTRODUCTION

For my EVS project, I had to create a workshop on the topic of my choice. I chose to do it about teamwork, because for me, it's a very interesting topic and I have good experience being part of the team. I practiced handball for several years and I saw that with a good team, it's easier to reach fixed goals and when the team is good and strong also the results are better.

The topic of teamwork is also interesting and exciting for other people, they are always interested to learn more about this subject and to find out what is really behind this question.



*Inex messenger, Šurany, June 2019*



*Inex messenger, Šurany, June 2019*

**“IF YOU ARE ALONE YOU CAN GO FASTER BUT  
IF YOU ARE MANY YOU CAN GO FURTHER”**

*African proverb*

Working in a team is something we can see everywhere in daily life. It could be at work, but you can also see teams in sports or at school. These are the more common places where you can find teams. And this is also the result of one question which was asked during the Inex messenger workshop: "Where can we find teams?"

The idea to choose this topic was because for me it's a very interesting subject and you have a lot of ways to show that working with someone is better than working alone. Working in a team is first and foremost dividing the tasks to be more efficient and faster but also the confrontation of opinions and the development of skills.

# HOW I DID MY WORKSHOP?

My workshop was divided into two parts. The first one was a theoretical part which was about 10 minutes and it was a brainstorming about the word TEAM. Some questions were asked to the participants and the discussion was engaged on the topic. This part was used as an introduction in order to have an exchange of ideas and facts about the topic and it will be also useful after the second part of the workshop, for illustrating the results of the game.

The questions for brainstorming:

- What is a team and can you define it?
- Where can we find team?
- Why is it important to work in a team?
- How to create a good team?



*Inex messenger, Integra, September 2019*

After the introduction, a paper was given to each participant (page 9) and on this paper they found a story written with a role play.

The story was: You are a member of a space crew originally scheduled to meet with a mother ship on the lighted surface of the moon. Due to mechanical difficulties, however, your ship was forced to land at a spot some 200 miles from the meeting point.

During the crash landing, much of the equipment aboard was damaged and, since survival depends on reaching the mother ship, the most critical items available must be chosen for the trip. Below are listed the 15 items left intact and undamaged after landing. Your task is to rank them in terms of their importance in allowing your crew to reach the meeting point.

First, each participant had to do this task alone without communicating with other volunteers. Then they showed their ranking to the others and after that they did once again but now all together, as a team, in order to have just one rank for the group.

This part lasted for about 10 minutes.

Finally, I gave them a professional rank done by NASA's expert (page 10) with a description of how items could be used and they could compare their result with the expert's results.

For comparing, you have to use the last columns.

First you need to do the difference between the column "Your ranking" and "expert's ranking" it will give you a score 1. And then you need to do the difference between "team ranking" and "expert's ranking" and you will get the score 2.

The aim is to have the lower result possible in both score, it would mean that you have a survivor spirit. In most of the cases while doing this workshop, volunteers had the score number 2 lower than the other one, it means that when they were working with in a team, they have better surviving spirit.

The explanation of this game is to show that when they are doing their own ranking, they maybe don't have all the knowledge about what is important or not and what could be useful on the moon. When they are working together, they can share they knowledge about the topic and specific items on the list.



*Workshop in Integra, september 2019*

## **"YOU CAN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT OXYGEN OR DRINKS"**

Now about the expert's ranking results, according to them the most important items are oxygen and drinks. Then you need to know where you are going, it means that the stellar map is on the third position. Only after that comes the food, which is also important, but less than oxygen and water. You can't survive without oxygen and water.

In the expert's ranking, we find at the end of the list: matches and magnetic compass because there is no oxygen and no magnetic field on the moon so these items are useless. And we have, at the third place of the most useless items, the portable heating unit because you are on the lightning surface of the moon so you don't need it.

## WHERE I DID MY WORKSHOP?

First I tried my workshop in the office with 4 participants, it was the first try and by far the most difficult one, because I didn't know if they would understand what I wanted to do. But at the end it was good, because they gave me a lot of good advices on what to change and how to adjust the workshop for making it better.

For example, they suggested me not just to read the little story, but to write it down on the paper, so if someone doesn't understand or miss an information, he could find it on the paper and read it again.

Second try was in a training course organized by Inex and I had a feeling it was the first real try, because there, I had seven participants for the workshop. They gave me more advices, for example to put pictures for each item for the practical part and to be more attentive on the timing of the workshop.

And they also suggested me to divide the group into two smaller groups, when I'm doing this workshop with a bigger group of volunteers. I think it was a good idea, it helped me a lot for the future.

Then, the third time was during an Erasmus training with 10 participants. I split them into two groups and I realized that even volunteers who were shy to speak when there were a lot of people they were more talkative.



*Inex messenger, Šebeš, August 2019*

# Workcamps

## Šurany kids

It was my first workcamp and I had there nine volunteers. They were very active during the theoretical part and I just decided to let them talk. It was interesting to listen what they thought about the teamwork.

For the practical part I split them in two groups and I realize that it was a good idea to split them, because then all of them could speak and discuss. The result was good because all of them had better results when they were doing it in teams than when they were doing the task alone.

## Šebeš castle

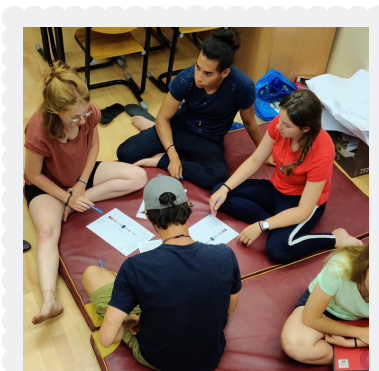
Maybe it was the most difficult, because the work that they were doing in the castle was very hard and I came to do my workshop just before one of the biggest event of the camp, the feast of cultures, so they were tired and one volunteer during the practical part was disturbing everyone and wasn't really focused, so I just explained him that he didn't have to participate, but he had to let the others doing it.

At the end, after a long time they finished the workshop, and when we checked the results we saw that it worked for almost everyone except for one volunteer because he had better result when he was alone.

When he was explaining his choices during the teamwork ranking time, he didn't convinced others that his choices are better.

## Integra

It was my last camp, so when we were doing the practical part, I just wanted to take part of the discussion, just in order to see if some of them knew a lot about surviving and about the characteristics on the moon. The workshop was supposed to be for 45 minutes but we talked for almost 2 hours. At the end when I gave them the expert ranking some of them didn't agree how to use some items, they were convinced their results are correct ones.



*Inex messenger, Šurany, June 2019*

# Conclusion

After this experience while doing my workshop in all these camps, I realized how difficult it is to respect all the rules, like the timing of my workshop. For the future, I also need to think about when is the best time for doing it, because I realised this is really important for the successful workshop.

In general I'm happy about the result and how people were reacting about the workshop. I find out that when I was doing it, volunteers did what I expected from them, I also think that the topic was good.

If I had some parts to adjust in order to make it better, I would change the theoretical part and found some questions more interesting for the volunteers.

To conclude, I'm happy and satisfied with my workshop and how it was going. There are some things I think I would like to change and others to adjust, but in general it was a good experience for me and I learned a lot from it. The topic was connected with the workcamps so it makes it more interesting for me and also for the volunteers that were participants of the workcamps.



# REFERENCES

- For the NASA's game

<https://www.humber.ca/centreforteachingandlearning/assets/files/pdfs/MoonExercise.pdf>

# Paper given to volunteers

OBJECTS	Picture	Your Ranking	Team Ranking	Expert's Ranking	Difference* between Step 1&3	Difference* between Step 2&3
Box of matches						
Food concentrate						
50 feet of nylon rope						
Parachute silk						
Portable heating unit						
Two Handguns						
case powdered milk						
Stellar map (of the moon's constellation)						
2 hundred-pound tanks of oxygen						
Life raft						
Magnetic compass						
5 liters of water						
First aid kit containing injection needles						
Signal flares						
Solar-powered FM receiver transmitter						
		Total :		Total :		

## **solution presented by specialists of the NASA**

1. 2 hundred-pound tanks of oxygen  
*Necessary to survive*
2. 5 liters of water  
*Important to survive*
3. Stellar map  
*Important for navigation*
4. Food concentrate  
*Food is important for the body, but less than oxygen and water*
5. Solar-powered FM receiver transmitter  
*Might allow communication with the rescue craft*
6. Nylon rope  
*Several possible appliances (pulling equipment, climbing, etc.)*
7. First aid kit  
*Important in case of an emergency*
8. Parachute silk  
*Can be used as sun protection (remember, there is no atmosphere on the moon)*
9. Life raft  
*CO2 containers might be useful for propulsion*
10. Signal flares  
*Might be used to alert other astronauts*
11. Handguns  
*Might be used for propulsion*
12. 1 case powdered milk  
*Nourishment*
13. Portable heating unit  
*Not necessary on the sun-facing side of the sun (but it will get night sometime)*
14. Magnetic compass  
*Does not work on the moon, there is no magnetic field*
15. Box of matches  
*Do not work on the moon, there is no oxygen*