



molam

510380-LLP-I-2010-PT-LEONARDO-LTTP



Guidelines for Case Studies

Interactive Tool

Guidelines for case studies

Each case study should correspond to a story of someone who migrated for working purposes. The case study can be obtained by face-to-face interview or telephone. Partners could also ask a migrant to write down his/her story, but it would be preferable to have direct contact.

For the preparation of these case studies, partners should consider the following:

- The story should be related to your country (i.e. as country of departure or arrival);
- Migration between EU countries;
- The migration should have occurred for working purposes;
- Not all parts have to be positive;
- Should be a low-skilled migrant;
- Each case study should be translated into all languages of the partner countries;
- From 2000 to 3000 characters;
- Please confirm that the person allows the quotation of his/her real name. Also, please check if it is possible to have a picture of the person or another picture about the mobility experience.

We suggest that the content of each story is not too “strict”, but that the issues included in the template provided in the next page should be addressed.

Template for case studies

The following template should be used by partners to collect/develop 1 case study and provide it to all other partners for translation. Once translated, case studies should be sent to SPI for upload in the Interactive Tool.

Thus, a similar template will be available in the Interactive Tool, section “Case Studies”, so that people can send their own stories: in case someone wants to contribute by sending a story, he/she can fill in the form that will be available in the tool. The content of the form will be sent automatically to the partner responsible for the respective national version and, after validation by the partner, it will be published in the Interactive Tool.

Stories of Mobility - Case Studies

Age (optional): 35

Departure Country: The Czech Republic

Arrival Country: Greece

Former (before departing) and current job field: A tourist guide

Duration of stay (in years): 10

If you want this story to have a face, please tell us your name and send a photo!

Please tell us about your experience abroad! Your story is not only interesting for us but might be helpful for people who consider moving abroad for work.

- ✓ What was your motivation for leaving?
- ✓ Why did you choose the country you went to?
- ✓ What was the most exciting aspect of your experience?
- ✓ What has been surprising/unexpected?
- ✓ How was your job experience in the new country?
- ✓ What did you find challenging/difficult?
- ✓ What would you like to say to someone that is about to leave?
- ✓ Any further recommendations or advice?

Your story (Maximum of 3000 characters):

My motivation was mainly finally having the possibility to travel after living in Communism for so many years, when travelling was impossible. Being a tour-guide was and still is the best opportunity for me to discover the world and to be paid for it.

I travelled to Corfu, in Greece, and I found a job at a local travel agency. They were looking for a representative (rep) of an English travel company, so I was eventually working for the English. Later, I started to also work for agencies of other countries, including the Czechs.

The most exciting aspect was realizing how much a rep can change the holidays of my clients. The hoteliers were usually kind, but sometimes they were just trying to rip the clients off. With a rep's help and recommendations, clients could get all they paid for.

Working in a new country – Greece – and living in a small village, although a small tourist resort, gave me the opportunity to experience a new culture and the new attitude of the locals, but mainly *to slow down*. If you are in a Southern country, there's no place for rush. And no one cares if you try to hurry. It is hot, and there must be a siesta from 2-5 p.m., because who is able to work in such weather? For me it was hard to explain to the clients that all their stress is useless and to persuade them to just *enjoy* the holidays.

What did I find challenging/difficult? Definitely picking up some Greek language. First I spoke only English, but later on, when I started to travel into hidden villages in the

mountains and out of tourist areas, I realised that Greek is very helpful. Even if you speak just a few sentences, but you try to communicate in the language of the people, the first thing they would ask is: “How come you speak Greek?” From that moment the door is open for you and you get the best meals, homemade wine and spirits, and very often you don’t pay anything for it. Good reason to learn Greek, isn’t it?

Recommendations? Well, I experienced some teenagers from the Czech Republic coming to work here in a bar. They thought that they would find a job easily, because there are many Czech tourists here. But what they didn’t realise is that the Czechs usually don’t spend their money in bars, but the English do. Usually their knowledge of a language was so poor that they either ended up cleaning flats, or sometimes were even sent back home. I guess that if you decide to travel abroad, the most important thing is to be sure that you can at least *speak* English, and that you will not wait for someone to give you work, but you will go around, speak to everyone you meet and try to persuade the employers that you are the best one for them. These days, tourism jobs in Greece are very often taken by the Romanians and Bulgarians, who speak English and work hard for small money. Therefore, the wages on the market in this field have been lowered. So, you can have a great time in Southern countries, but don’t expect to come back home as a millionaire...