

The REcup Project, under the European program CERV-2022-CITIZENS-TOWN, hosted its Seminar Activity titled “Challenges of the Active Social Participation” from March 23 to 25, 2024, in Breznicki Hum, Croatia.

The third event of the REcup project, titled *“Challenges of the Active Social Participation,”* took place from March 23 to 25, 2024, in Breznicki Hum, Croatia. The seminar brought together local unemployed individuals, key stakeholders, and partner representatives to discuss the role of civic participation in fostering social inclusion and democratic engagement. Each participating organization contributed by involving unemployed citizens, stakeholders, and partner leaders, ensuring a diverse and enriched exchange of perspectives.

The event’s agenda systematically explored active social participation, focusing on local governance, best practices, citizenship activation methodologies, and the impact of COVID-19 on policy adjustments. A significant session led by the Croatian Employment Service addressed challenges in maintaining civic engagement, particularly for unemployed individuals.

A key highlight of the seminar was the REcup project meeting, which reviewed the outcomes of WP1 and WP2. WP1, initiated in Romania, established a common understanding of civic participation strategies, engaging stakeholders to build inclusive policies. WP2, developed in Italy, focused on the barriers preventing unemployed individuals from engaging in European policy-making, emphasizing the need for structured participation frameworks. These discussions directly shaped the seminar’s activities, ensuring that project efforts aligned with identified challenges.

The event concluded with a consensus on the importance of collaboration between local authorities, stakeholders, and civil society to foster sustainable civic participation. Participants emphasized the need for targeted policies that empower unemployed individuals, along with the integration of digital tools and non-formal education methods to bridge participation gaps. The reflections session reaffirmed partners’ commitment to promoting inclusive democratic processes across Europe.

The REcup project continues to drive forward its mission of strengthening European citizenship by creating opportunities for meaningful civic engagement and ensuring active social participation for all.

