

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Reinforcing European citizenship through building up the conditions for civic and democratic participation - RECup
Participant:	DRUSTVO ZA RAZVIJANJE PROSTOVOLJNEGA DELA NOVO MESTO
PIC number:	946969873

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number :	4		
Event name:	Round Table “European Citizens Lab: COVID19 effects and labour market challenges”		
Type:	Round Table		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Novo Mesto. Slovenia		
Date(s):	24/03/2024 – 26/03/2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://recup-project.eu/		
Participants			
Female:	34		
Male:	30		
Non-binary:	1		
From country 1 [Romania]:	7		
From country 2 [Malta]:	2		
From country 3 [Greece]:	8		
From country 4 [Croatia]:	12		
From country 5 [Italy]:	2		
From country 6 [Slovenia]:	33		
From country 7 [Spain]:	1		
Total number of participants:	65	From total number of countries:	7
Description			

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

During the fourth event of the REcup Project, titled "European Citizens Lab: COVID-19 Effects and Labour Market Challenges," held from March 24-26, 2024, in Novo mesto, Slovenia, participants from various partner countries gathered to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on unemployment and the labour market across Europe. The event included the participation of local unemployed individuals and key stakeholders, with each partner organization also bringing unemployed participants, relevant stakeholders, and partner representatives to ensure diverse perspectives and meaningful exchanges.

On the first day, participants arrived throughout the morning and early afternoon. The event officially began with a brief welcome, followed by a presentation by the Development and Education Center Novo Mesto (DRPDNM), showcasing their best practices in addressing unemployment and labour market challenges exacerbated by the pandemic.

Later in the day, a REcup Project meeting was held to review and report on the outcomes of the first three work packages (WP1, WP2, and WP3). This meeting provided an opportunity for participants to discuss progress, share insights, and address any challenges encountered thus far. The day concluded with a networking dinner, allowing participants to connect more informally.

On the second day, the event commenced with welcoming speeches from DRPDNM and the Municipality of Novo mesto, including addresses by the mayor, Mr. Gregor Macedoni, and the president of DRPDNM, Ms. Branka Bukovec. Following these speeches, each partner country presented their findings and experiences related to the "Unemployed European Citizens Lab," focusing on how COVID-19 has impacted their labour markets.

After a short coffee break, the first phase of discussions began with a round table and workshop led by A.S.E.L. Romania. This session focused on mapping employment issues and analyzing the economic impact of COVID-19 on the European Union. Participants engaged in an in-depth discussion, sharing their observations and concerns. The afternoon was dedicated to brainstorming ideas on how the pandemic's impact has varied across different sectors and identifying recovery measures necessary to support the EU citizens' community and uphold democratic values. This session was guided by DRPDNM's experts, who facilitated a workshop aimed at generating practical solutions.

The day concluded with a final round table discussion, where participants presented draft action plans based on the day's discussions. Feedback was provided to refine these plans before finalization. The draft action plans presented during the final round table discussion focused on strategies to mitigate unemployment post-COVID-19, including policy recommendations for enhancing job market resilience, integrating digital and green skills into employment training programs, and fostering stronger collaboration between public and private sectors to create sustainable job opportunities. The evening ended with another networking dinner, fostering continued dialogue and collaboration.

On the third and final day, participants embarked on a tour of Novo mesto, visiting sites that showcased successful EU-funded projects in the region. This tour provided a practical perspective on how EU support has facilitated local development. The event concluded with a project management meeting, where participants evaluated the event's outcomes, discussed the effectiveness of the sessions, and planned future activities for the REcup project. A closing lunch provided a final opportunity for participants to connect and reflect on the event's achievements before their departure.

The event underscored the lasting impact of COVID-19 on unemployment and the need for adaptive policies, skills development, and stronger stakeholder collaboration. Participants emphasized inclusive recovery strategies to enhance job resilience and ensure access to opportunities for those most affected.

REcup Round Table "European Citizens Lab: COVID-19 Effects and Labour Market Challenges" Agenda

Date: 24-26 March 2024

Venue: Novo mesto, Slovenia

Session Day 1: 24th March 2024

10:00 – 15:00

Participants Arrival

Arrival and registration of participants.

15:00 – 15:15

Welcome Greetings

Opening remarks to welcome participants to the event.

15:15 – 16:00

Presentation of DRPDNM's Best Practices

Presentation on best practices related to unemployment, COVID-19 effects, and labour market challenges by DRPDNM (Development and Education Center Novo Mesto).

16:00 – 18:00

RECup Project Meeting

Reporting on the outcomes of Work Packages (WP1, WP2, and WP3).

Discussion on progress and key findings.

19:30

Dinner

Networking dinner for participants.

Session Day 2: 25th March 2024

10:30 – 10:45

Welcoming Greetings

Opening speeches by DRPDNM and the Municipality of Novo mesto.

Welcome speech by the mayor, Mr. Gregor Macedoni.

Welcome speech by the president of DRPDNM, Ms. Branka Bukovec.

10:45 – 11:15

Partner Country Presentations

Short presentations from each partner country on the "Unemployed European Citizens Lab: COVID-19 Effects and Labour Market Challenges."

11:15 – 11:30

Coffee Break

Refreshments and informal networking.

11:30 – 13:30

Phase 1: Mapping Discussion

Discussion on employment and labour issues, focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on the EU economy.

Round table and workshop delivered by A.S.E.L. Romania.

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch Break

Enjoy traditional Slovenian dishes while networking with participants.

14:30 – 16:30

Phase 2: Ideas Brainstorming

Exploration of how the impact of COVID-19 is distributed among different sectors.

Brainstorming on necessary recovery measures to meet the needs of EU citizens and uphold democratic values.

Round table and workshop led by DRPDNM's experts on recovery measures.

16:30 – 17:30

Round Table for Concluding the Unemployment Citizens Lab

Presentation of draft action plans.

Feedback session with participants to refine and finalize the plans.

19:30

Dinner

Evening dinner to foster further discussions and connections.

Session Day 3: 26th March 2024**10:00 – 12:30**

Tour of Novo mesto

Guided tour of Novo mesto, including visits to EU-funded best practices in the area.

12:30 – 13:30

Project Management Meeting

Evaluation of the event, including topics covered and outcomes achieved.

Discussion of future activities for the RECup project.

13:30

Lunch

Final meal together to close the event.

HISTORY OF CHANGES

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).