

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Reinforcing European citizenship through building up the conditions for civic and democratic participation - RECup
Participant:	ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPING VOLUNTARY WORK NOVO MESTO
PIC number:	946969873

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number :	9		
Event name:	Participatory Seminar Activity: Compacting poverty and unemployment through activation in Europe		
Type:	Seminar		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Novo Mesto, Slovenia		
Date(s):	19.09.2024 – 21.09.2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://recup-project.eu/		
Participants			
Female:	38		
Male:	23		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Romania]:	1		
From country 2 [Malta]:	2		
From country 3 [Greece]:	3		
From country 4 [Croatia]:	17		
From country 5 [Italy]:	4		
From country 6 [Slovenia]:	32		
From country 7 [Spain]:	2		
Total number of participants:	61	From total number of countries:	7
Description			

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The event began with the arrival of participants throughout the morning and early afternoon, as representatives from various European partner countries gathered in Novo mesto, Slovenia. Delegates included experts, policymakers, and representatives of civil society organizations, all committed to tackling poverty and unemployment through active citizenship and European cooperation. At 15:00, the event officially commenced with welcome greetings, setting the tone for three days of discussion, collaboration, and knowledge-sharing.

The first session, from 15:15 to 16:00, featured a presentation of DRPDNM's best practices in e-consultation and e-initiative as tools for promoting active citizenship. The Digital Consultation and Initiative mechanisms presented demonstrated how citizens could directly engage with policymakers, contribute to decision-making, and propose innovative solutions for social and economic challenges. Following this, from 16:00 onward, a RECup Project Meeting was held to review the outcomes of Work Packages WP4, WP5, and WP6. These work packages focused on different aspects of civic participation, employment policies, and digital inclusion. The meeting allowed project partners to report on their progress, share best practices, and discuss potential improvements for the next phase of implementation. The first day concluded with a networking dinner at 19:30, where participants had the opportunity to exchange ideas in an informal setting and further strengthen cross-border collaboration.

The second day started at 10:30 with welcoming speeches by DRPDNM (Development and Research Centre Novo mesto) and the Municipality of Novo mesto. Mayor Gregor Macedoni and DRPDNM President Ms. Branka Bukovec officially welcomed the participants, emphasizing the importance of European collaboration in addressing unemployment and poverty through civic activation.

At 10:45, each participating country presented a brief overview of their national context, highlighting how they had developed e-consultation and e-initiative mechanisms to support active citizenship. The presentations provided a comparative perspective, allowing attendees to understand different national strategies and their effectiveness.

The main Participatory Seminar Activity began at 11:30, under the theme "Compacting Poverty and Unemployment through Activation in Europe." This session, led by A.S.E.L. Romania, took the form of a Round Table and Workshop, where participants engaged in an in-depth discussion on the structural causes of unemployment and poverty, as well as possible solutions driven by digital and civic engagement tools.

Following a lunch break at 13:30, which featured traditional Slovenian dishes, the afternoon resumed with an Ideas Brainstorming Session from 14:30 to 16:30. This workshop, delivered by DRPDNM's experts, focused on identifying key obstacles that unemployed individuals face, particularly post-COVID-19. Participants explored recovery measures, debated policy solutions, and exchanged ideas on best practices from their respective countries.

At 16:30, the discussions transitioned into a more structured Round Table focused on the study of unemployment trends and COVID-19 effects. Participants presented draft action plans, which included strategies for employment activation, digital upskilling, and social entrepreneurship development. The session concluded with feedback from experts and participants, ensuring that the proposed solutions were both practical and adaptable across different national contexts.

The day wrapped up with another networking dinner at 19:30, reinforcing the collaborative spirit of the event.

The final day of the seminar started at 10:00 with a Tour of Novo mesto, where participants visited EU-funded best practices in employment activation and social inclusion. This tour provided first-hand insights into successful projects that had been implemented with European funding, showcasing effective models for integrating marginalized communities into the workforce.

From 12:30 to 13:30, the final Project Management Meeting took place, focusing on the evaluation of the event, key outcomes, and future activities within the RECup project. Participants reflected on the discussions from the past two days, identified key takeaways, and formulated next steps for collaboration and policy advocacy.

The seminar concluded with a closing lunch at 13:30, marking the end of an eventful and impactful three days of knowledge exchange and European cooperation.

RECup Participatory Seminar Activity: Compacting poverty and unemployment through activation in Europe Agenda

Date: 19-21 September 2024

Venue: Novo mesto, Slovenia

Session Day 1: 19 September 2024

10:00 – 15:00

Participants Arrival

Arrival and registration of participants.

15:00 – 15:15

Welcome Greetings

Introduction of facilitators and acknowledgment of participants.

15:15 – 16:00

Presentation of DRPDNM's best practices of e-consultation and e-initiative as a means of active citizenship

16:00 – 17:30

REcup Project Meeting on reporting the WP4, WP5, and WP6 outcomes

19.30

Dinner

Session Day 2: 20 September 2024

10:30 – 10:45

Welcoming Greetings 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

Short presentations from each partner country on the development of the subject and the e-consultation and e-initiative as a means of active citizenship

11:15 – 11:30

Coffee Break.

11:30 – 13:30

Participatory Seminar Activity: Compacting Poverty and Unemployment through Activation in Europe
Round Table and Workshop delivered by A.S.E.L. Romania

13.30 – 14.30

Lunch Break (Slovenian dishes)

14.30 – 16.30

Ideas Brainstorming: Discussion on the reasons for unemployment and the obstacles individuals face

Round Table and Workshop delivered by DRPDNM's experts on recovery measures.

16.30 – 17.30

Round Table on the study of unemployment causes and the effects of COVID-19

Presentation of draft action plans and feedback from participants.

Session Day 3: 21 September 2024

10:00 – 12:30

Tour of Novo mesto and visit to EU-funded best practices

12:30 – 13:30

Project Management Meeting

Evaluation of the event, discussion of topics, outcomes, and future activities of the RECup project

13:30

Lunch

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