

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET*(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)* *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)*

PROJECT	
Participant:	OBČINA MIREN – KOSTANJEVICA
PIC number:	877918483
Project name and acronym:	Ties4Growth: Deepening Cooperation T4G – DC

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	1
Event name:	Twinning Kralupy nad Vltavou - Miren, event in Miren
Type:	Twinning event – exchange of good practice and visits
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Slovenia, Municipality of Miren – Kostanjevica
Date(s):	3rd October 2024 – 6th October 2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.miren-kostanjevica.si/obcina/projekti/ties4growth-deepening-cooperation/
Participants	
Female:	500
Male:	400
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 SLOVENIA	844
From country 2 CEECZ	56
Total number of participants:	900
From total number of countries:	2
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	
Event 1: twinning Kralupy nad Vltavou - Miren, event in Miren. The event took place from October 3rd to October 6th 2024.	
The agenda of the 3-days event was as follows:	

Thursday, 3rd October 2024, Miren Castle: Arrival in Miren (Miren Castle): Greetings of the mayor of the Municipality of Miren-Kostanjevica, Mr. Mauricij Humar; Presentation of the Municipality and of the 3-days programme; Dinner.

Friday, 4th October 2024, Miren Castle: the program focused on the exchange of good practices. The day began with a guided tour of the Castle, followed by a presentation on the concept of a "self-sustained community." This was followed by a discussion and exchange of experiences among the participants. Next, there was a presentation on the House of Good Will – Day Center for the Elderly, which included an overview of the center's concept, its organization, and the activities it offers. The presentation was followed by an engaging discussion, where participants shared insights and experiences. The session concluded with a question-and-answer segment. The morning activities were concluded with a lunch at Miren Castle.

After that, the participants were divided into three groups. The first group visited the House of Good Will, where they discussed how to implement a similar initiative in Kralupy. The second group went to the elementary school, where they explored the possibility of future collaboration between the two schools. The third group visited the Fire Station in Kostanjevica na Krasu, where the firefighters' representatives presented the equipment and activities of the fire department, exchanged good practices, and discussed potential future collaboration with their Czech colleagues. At the end of the afternoon, there was also a visit to the "Oskar Kogoj Gallery" and the Shoemaking Museum, where they could compare different traditions and explore the possibility of future cooperation. In the evening, the entire group joined the celebration of the municipal holiday.

On **Saturday, 5th October 2024**, the group visited the village of Opatje Selo. We named this day "A Moment of Tradition, Networking, and Exchange of Experiences." The day began with a reception in front of the traditional house "Hiša opajske tradicije," followed by a welcome addressed from the women's association "Žbrinca Opatje Selo" and a presentation of the local bowling and carnival traditions. Afterward, we organized a study visit to the Ethnological Collection of Traditional Crafts and the Collection of World War I. During the event, local open stalls showcasing crafts and products were also set up. A cultural program was performed also by the Czech Brass Band Kralupanka. After lunch, we organized a study visit to the monument to the Czechs in Hudi Log, the Jama Pečinka cave, and the Monument of Peace in Cerje. The visit included a presentation of the monument, as well as discussions on activities in the fields of tourism and culture, with an exchange of good practices.

In the afternoon, a group of 16 people from the Czech Republic actively participated in the Sports Games of the Local Communities in Miren, while the jazz group Jakubfour Jazztet performed at the evening event.

Sunday, 6 th December 2024, Miren Castle : Conclusion of the event, greetings from the Mayor and departure.

Main topics of discussions during the event:

- elderly care services: (1) Elderly care enhancement through day centres for elderly which provide comprehensive services tailored to the elderly population's needs, (2) Capacity building of professional staff and volunteers, ensuring they possess the necessary skills and knowledge to deliver high-quality care and support to the elderly. The discussion was held by Tina Krog, professional worker on programs. An example was given directly from one of the residents of the House of Good Will.
- identification of the areas for future best practices exchange: The participants from both municipalities discussed about possible future collaborations. The possible fields of collaboration identified are culture, education (collaboration between schools), firefighters (exchange of good practices). These efforts will help maintain and strengthen cooperation between the twinned municipalities.

Citizens participation – active engagement and inclusive participation of citizens

The event was organized with inclusive collaboration and a participatory approach, involving all relevant stakeholders. Local citizens, employees from municipal administrations, and

representatives of local associations and NGOs actively participated in project planning, decision-making, and execution. The agenda was prepared in collaboration with the local NGO Women's Association "Žbrinca" from Opatje selo, Opatje selo Local Community, and the public tourist Institute Miren Kras. The first day of the program was prepared in collaboration with the employees of the House of Good Will - House of Elderly of Nova Gorica (presentation, discussion, and study visit), the Elementary School of Miren (presentation and discussion), and the Fire Brigade of Kostanjevica na Krasu (presentation, discussion, and study visit). The cultural program on the second day was organized by the Women's Association "Žbrinca," the Cultural Association "Kras" Opatje Selo, the Tourist Association Cerje, the Opatje Selo Carnival Group, the Opatje Selo Local Community, and individuals. The citizens of Kralupy were actively involved in the discussions and in the exchange of good practices, as well as in the cultural program, with performances in Opatje selo in the morning and in Miren in the evening. A group of 16 representatives from Kralupy participated in the sports games of the local communities, where they competed with seven other groups from Miren. There were numerous opportunities for interaction between the citizens of both countries, sharing good practices and experience.

Cross-learning and knowledge exchange:

We emphasized cross-learning and knowledge exchange between the twinned municipalities. Through study visits, debates, sports, and cultural events (concerts, sports games), we fostered the exchange and dissemination of best practices among representatives of local public authorities, civil society organizations, and local citizens, with more than 900 participants involved. This approach ensures that knowledge is co-created and mutually beneficial, enhancing the sustainability and effectiveness of the project.

Interdisciplinary expertise:

During this first event we integrated interdisciplinary expertise from various fields, elderly care, public administration, NGOs and other. This integration allows for a comprehensive strategy addressing multifaceted challenges in both municipalities, leading to comprehensive and sustainable solutions.

Ethical and safety considerations:

Ethical and safety considerations are key in our project to ensure the well-being and dignity of our target groups. We had a particular care for the safety, comfort, and respect of all participants during the event. We ensured the safety of all participants, their well-being, respected the principles of personal data protection, and took into account gender equality, dietary needs, and the accessibility of locations for all participants.

The key impacts of the project in this first phase are:

- Increased awareness: Participants and stakeholders gained a deeper understanding of the project's themes, such as elderly care and cross-cultural cooperation. This heightened awareness will contribute to informed decision-making and action in these areas.
- Initiation of knowledge and best practices exchange: The focus on knowledge exchange will begin immediately. Participants, alongside stakeholders from both municipalities, were engaged in initial discussions and shared valuable information. This exchange will enable participants to acquire new skills and knowledge that they can apply in both the medium and long term.
- Expansion of networks and contacts: An immediate effect of the project is the expansion of networks and the establishment of new acquaintances and contacts. This will foster cross-border cooperation and build mutual trust between individuals and organizations in both municipalities.

- Enhanced local interest: The project generated immediate interest and engagement among local community members, strengthening the connection between the project and the local population.

Links to the websites :

Information about the project :

<https://www.miren-kostanjevica.si/obcina/projekti/ties4growth-deepening-cooperation/>

Upcoming event announcement :

<https://www.mojaobcina.si/miren-kostanjevica/novice/obcinske/projekt-ties4growth-poglabljanje-sodelovanja-in-praznovanje-30-obletnice-obstoja-obcine-miren-kostanjevica.html>

News of the event :

<https://www.mojaobcina.si/miren-kostanjevica/novice/kultura/projekt-ties4growth-ceska-delegacija-na-obisku.html>

Link to the pictures:

<https://jrpstudio.pixieset.com/ceska-delegacija/>

Link to the published EDS :

<https://www.miren-kostanjevica.si/obcina/projekti/ties4growth-deepening-cooperation/>

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